

OUR 118TH YEAR

# Andover Townsman

AN EAGLE-TRIBUNE COMPANY

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75 CENTS

## Affordable home, unaffordable tax for her

By Greta Cuyler

Janet Trachym won an affordable housing lottery last December. But she said the taxes she has paid on the home have made it anything but affordable to her, because some town officials did not realize the unit was an affordable one.

The town charged Trachym more than she expected because it assessed her home as a market-rate unit and she did not notice in time to file an abatement.

The town said it will correct the problem next year.

"She's making an issue out of something that was a one-year situation," said Town Assessor Bruce Symmes, who acknowledges three other Andover home owners are in similar situations.

But Trachym is pushing for a solution to the bills she has already paid. "It just doesn't seem right," she said. "I work in a business where if someone makes a mistake, they're liable."

A lab support technician, Trachym works at Holy Family Hospital in Methuen, and draws blood and helps with follow-up visits for radiation and chemotherapy patients at the hospital's Cancer Management Center.

But because of the higher tax bill, Trachym, a single mother of two, said she is behind on her electricity and gas bills. Her cable is being shut off. And 10 days before Christmas, she said there are no presents under the tree.

Trachym owns a nearly 1,700-square foot, two-bedroom townhouse at Ballardvale Crossing, which she bought after an affordable housing lottery in December 2004. She paid \$156,000 for the unit.

Town Assessor Bruce Symmes said all residential properties were assessed on July 1, 2004 and, at that time the bills were sent, Trachym's unfinished

Continued on page 2



PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

Janet Trachym is more careful to look over her tax bill now, after the town assessed her affordable home as if it were a market-rate unit.

## EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK

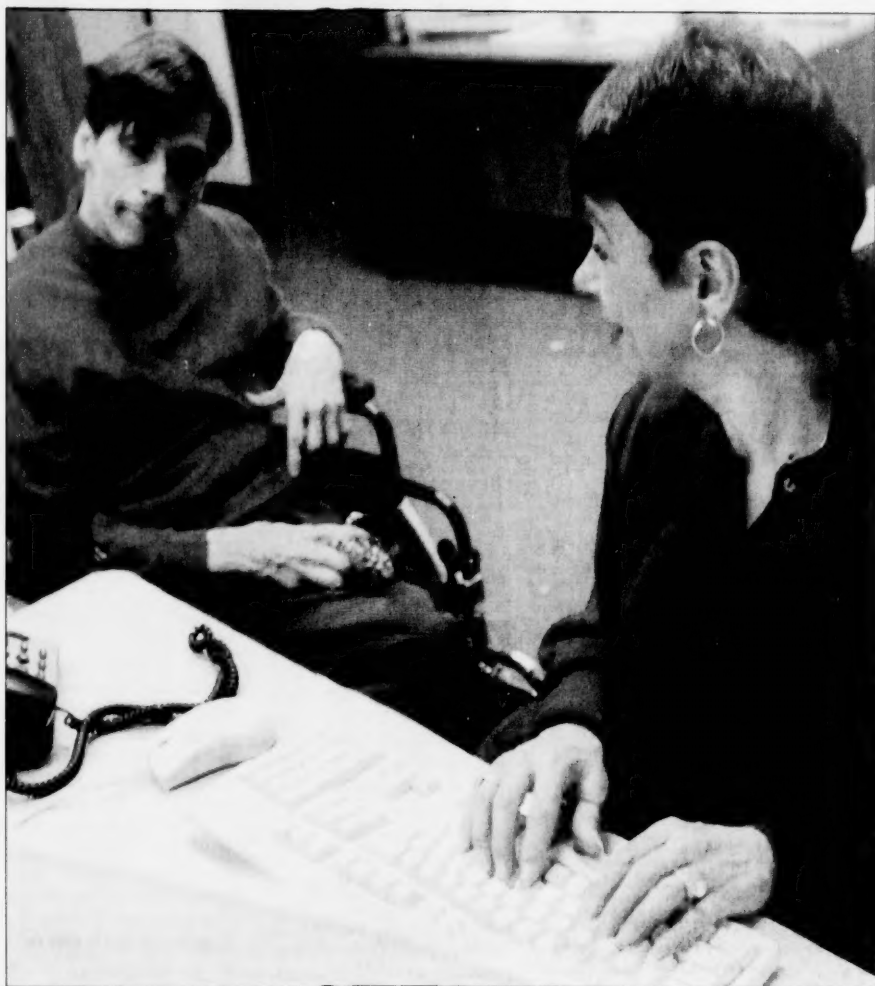


PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

Andover resident John Pitochelli, above with Patricia Fichera, a specialist at CLASS Inc. in Lawrence, relies on care workers each day. A new bill would require workers at state-contracted facilities such as CLASS to be paid the same as state workers who care for the mentally handicapped.

## Care workers seek raise

### Tucker files 'salary equity bill' for agency workers

By Greta Cuyler

John Pitochelli uses a computer every day. Not for work. Or to surf the net. Or for video games. Physically and mentally handicapped, Pitochelli uses the computer to communicate.

Born with a cord wrapped around his neck, Pitochelli, 41, is unable to speak and has limited use of his hands so he cannot feed himself or write. The computer lets him express that he feels like having a steak dinner, or is looking forward to Christmas with his family.

He is one of the founding members of a computer user's group at CLASS Inc., a daytime habilitation program in Lawrence and North Reading that serves nearly 300 clients per day.

His father, William Pitochelli, said even though John Pitochelli cannot speak, his caretakers know how to communicate with him either through the computer or, after they've known him awhile, by picking up on subtle changes in

**"I really enjoy what I'm doing. Working with human life, you get a lot of rewards. But don't come into the field for the money."**

LINDA FAY,  
A CASE MANAGER  
WHO HAS WORKED 20 YEARS  
AT NON-PROFIT CLASS INC.  
AND MAKES \$22,000 PER YEAR

his demeanor.

The problem is, many workers are paid so little that they rarely stay around for long. They can make more if they are employed by the state. That's why Pitochelli is in favor of a new bill meant to raise the salaries of some people who work with the mentally retarded.

He believes his son and other disabled people bear the brunt of a problem affecting direct care workers in the mental retardation

field: low wages for workers at non-profit agencies such as CLASS that are contracted by the state Department of Mental Retardation.

On average, direct care workers at a state-contracted agency such as CLASS earn 20 percent less in annual salary than their state-employed counterparts. The average salary for a state-employed direct care worker in the field of mental retardation was \$26,470 in fiscal year 2004, compared to \$20,600 earned by a direct care worker in an agency contracted by the Department of Mental Retardation.

Low wages are causing high vacancy rates at non-profit organizations like CLASS, and employers are having difficulty attracting qualified candidates, say those involved in the field.

State Sen. Sue Tucker of Andover is co-sponsoring legislation, known as the "salary equity"

Continued on page 2

## Neighbors' expert: Cabana is 4 times its original size

By Greta Cuyler

The much-disputed Hazelwood Circle cabana is more than four times larger than the one Andover's former conservation director approved verbally, says an architect hired by neighbors.

Town officials agree the cabana project has been enlarged since the verbal approval of an Oct. 6 plan and are investigating whether it was also built closer to wetlands than originally proposed.

"The cabana is larger and closer to the wetlands than the plan shown to (former director) Jim Greer last October," said Robert Douglas, Andover's current conservation director. "The commission seeks to keep structures away from sensitive resource areas such as wetlands and I think the commission finds that the fact that the January plans increased the size of the cabana and moved it closer to be significant."

While the cabana's footprint has quadrupled, according to an architect's study of the plans, his numbers also indicate the square footage of the building is more than six times larger because of the addition of a partial second floor.

"The revised site plan shows a cabana building

Continued on page 8

## New on-ramp, lights at busy I-93 exit

By Colin Steele

A major commuter interchange used by thousands of Andover residents is getting an overhaul.

The Massachusetts Highway Department is installing a new on-ramp and traffic lights where Route 125 and Interstate 93 meet.

"It will improve safety for vehicles to get on and off 93," MassHighway spokesman Erik Abell said.

The new on-ramp will allow drivers heading away from Andover on Route 125 to make a right turn onto I-93 north — a much easier way to access the highway, said Lt. Edward Amodeo of the Andover state police barracks.

"I think this is going to alleviate a lot of the problems that we have there," he said.

Under the current configuration, motorists must use a left-turn only lane to access I-93 north. Many find themselves in that lane accidentally and their rush to cut into the right-hand travel lane can cause backups and the occasional accident.

"It's a problem volumewise," Amodeo said. "That road was designed years and years ago. It's just not able to handle the volume."

About 15,000 drivers travel Route 125 in Wilmington every day. Many are Andover and North Andover residents who use the state highway to get to and from I-93.

The new traffic lights will be installed farther down Route 125, where the on and off ramps to I-93 south are. Crews will install new curbing, improve drainage, repave the pavement and put up new signs at the interchange. Construction, which began in the spring, is expected to continue until fall 2006.

The work, which is about 40 percent completed, will cost \$4.1 million, Abell said.

The project is part of a larger effort to develop land along I-93 between Route 125 and Dascomb Road in Andover, Tewksbury and Wilmington. The Mills Corp. has plans for 750,000 square feet of retail space on the southbound side of I-93 at Route 125.

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### INSIDE



Katrina students find first storm a blast, many here until spring

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# Case raises questions on scope of sex offender registry

Alleged 7-year lapse in reporting for Andover man

By Rita Savard

After slipping under the state's radar for seven years, Andover resident Peter Paquette is scheduled to appear before a jury next month, which will decide whether the 60-year-old is guilty of failing to register with the state's Sex Offender Registry Board.

Police only became aware of Paquette, considered a low-level risk to offend again, because of another man's alleged crime at the Methuen Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints where Paquette worked.

While Methuen Det. Lt. Michael Wnek said no one from the church has made any allegations against Paquette, his case is an example of why police worry about the state's current ability to keep track of sex offenders. "Our concern was

that he had access to the children," said Wnek. "When we discovered he didn't comply with the Sex Offender Registry, we called Andover. There are a lot of guys like (Paquette) out there, who should be registered with the state but are not. It's a shame."

Paquette, who is a Level 1 offender — considered to be the lowest risk for committing repeat offenses — is not required to register annually with his local police department like Level 2 and 3 offenders. Instead, Level 1 offenders are required to register annually by mail directly with the Sex Offender Registry Board. If Paquette is found guilty for failing to register as a sex offender, he could face up to five years in prison.

Charles McDonald,

spokesman for the Sex Offender Registry Board, said thousands of sex offenders across Massachusetts went without registering during a three-year period ('98-'01) when the state board was disabled during legal battles.

The Sex Offender Registry Board first became operational in 1996. Litigation brought forth by sex offenders, charging that the Registry Board was unconstitutional, halted its operation in 1998. A legal tug-of-war over the issues remained until the state's highest court ruled that the Board was in alignment with the Massachusetts Constitution.

The Sex Offender Registry Board was officially back in business in June 2001. Although the Board was in

Continued on page 7



PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

John Pitochelli uses a computer he operates with his foot to express himself. But his father says direct care workers who have time to get to know him are able to understand what he needs by examining his body language.

## Town: 'We've done everything possible'

### TAX BILL

Continued from page 1

unit was valued at \$233,000. The December tax bill was sent to the owner of the property on file with the Registry of Deeds. Trachym's bill was mailed to the Ballardvale Crossing contractor, who then forwarded it to Trachym. The fact that Trachym did not appeal the bill within the 30-day abatement period is not the town's fault, said Symmes. And in July, Trachym's unit was not "affordable" in the town's eyes.

Trachym has spoken with Town Treasurer David Reilly and Assistant Assessor Susan Moore, but neither could offer a Trachym a solution, other than to say that her tax bill will be correct next year.

But Trachym said her master deed, which is dated May 2004, clearly states which units at Ballardvale Crossing were affordable units and what the sale prices were.

Symmes said his office uses the information it has on file, which is what it did before the December tax bills were mailed. Even if another town department had the information on the affordable units, he said, "those are different departments and we have no idea (what other departments) are doing."

He said his office tries to ensure correct billing for affordable units, but sometimes the information is not available.

"I would hate to lose what I just won because of someone's mistake," said Trachym. "I don't see how the town of Andover could make such a big mistake with such a big project."

"I don't know what else we can do," Symmes said.

"If there was a question on the value, that's when they should have filed an (abatement) and they didn't. There is nothing by law that can be done. We have done everything possible."

Trachym didn't realize her tax bill was so high until she was notified by her bank earlier this year that her escrow account, out of which her property taxes are paid, was overdrawn. Pulling out the bills she had forwarded to the bank for payment, Trachym then realized that the February and May tax bills were wrong.

Her bank, Heritage Bank in Salem, Mass., spent the next few months trying to work out a solution with the town of Andover, to no avail. The town's position is that taxpayers must apply for an abatement within 30 days, and once that window closes, there is nothing the town can do.

Even though the town has taxed Trachym based on a \$233,000 valuation, the home will never be worth that to her, even if she sells it. Under the rules of her affordable housing contract, the most she could receive from a sale is the price she paid for it, \$156,000.

The second-youngest of seven children, Trachym grew up in Andover, attending Andover public schools from Bancroft Elementary School through Andover High School. Except for a few years when she lived in Lawrence, she has always called Andover home.

"I told Susan Moore (in the assessor's office), 'It may not seem like a lot of money to you, but it makes me have to go out and get a second job,'" she said.

## Pay increase targeted by bill

### CARE WORKERS

Continued from page 1

bill, that would pay employees at private community agencies the same money that state workers earn for performing the same job.

"Employees who are overworked and underpaid find it difficult to create close emotional attachments with the people that they support," said Tucker. "And it's that kind of support that people with developmental disabilities need in order to reach their full potential."

"(Years ago), it wasn't unusual for Johnny to have someone with above a high school-level education," said William Pitochelli. "Now, if they have skills above a high school level, they do better financially working elsewhere."

CLASS provides recreation and social opportunities for clients, helps clients learn new life skills and offers cooking, arts and crafts, exercise programs and an opportunity to work on projects for local companies.

Linda Fay of Lawrence has been working at CLASS for 20 years. As a case manager who supervises direct care workers, Fay's salary is \$22,000. She works 80 hours a week to pay the bills, 40 hours each week at CLASS and 40 hours at a group home.

"The work is very rewarding, but it takes patience and hard work. I really enjoy what I'm doing. Working with human life, you get a lot of rewards. But don't come into the field for the money," she said.

Among CLASS' direct care workers, turnover is 15 to 20 percent, according to Inge Peters, director of human resources and communications at CLASS. Most employees are new to the field, which requires CLASS to invest in significant


training, which can take up to three months.

Each client at CLASS has a state-mandated Individual Service Plan. But when a direct care worker leaves, that can whether a client such as John Pitochelli achieves their goals.


"You lay out a plan for 12 months and that staff person leaves. It's really tough. The plan is there, but the staff person is gone," said William Pitochelli.

John Pitochelli spends every weekday at CLASS. He has been going there for 20 years and will spend the balance of his life there.

Although John lives in a group home in the Bradford section of Haverhill, he comes home to Andover to visit his parents nearly every weekend. Last weekend he helped decorate the family Christmas tree, something he has been looking forward to. Using a foot-controlled computer and a special program, John had been printing out messages for his father that said let's "Decorate the Tree."



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## IN BRIEF

## PAST AND PRESENT



OLDER PHOTO COURTESY OF ANDOVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY; MODERN-DAY PHOTO BY TIM JEAN  
In the top photo, one can see a scene from Main Street in the winter of 1957. The bottom photo shows Main Street this week. Residents who have an older photo for this "Past and Present" feature are invited to stop by the paper or send the photo and information to the Andover Townsman at 33 Chestnut St.

## Indoor exercise

Andover residents will be able to walk for exercise inside the Andover High School field house through March 10.

The hours for walking are Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 6:15 to 7:15 a.m.; and Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings from 8:30 to 9:30.

During school vacations, the track will be closed to the public.

## School sends soldiers greetings, packages

In honor of Greg Bell, a former student and soldier in Iraq, students at the Greater Lawrence Technical School stuffed 25 monogrammed stockings for 25 members of the 21st Airborne Division. On Christmas Day, each serviceman will receive playing cards, toiletries, sunscreen, insect repellent, and shaving cream, and a massive banner sharing the most sincere of holiday well-wishes.

— Courtney Fiske  
What's Up contributor

## Baskets on way

The United Way of Merrimack Valley is set to deliver its annual elder baskets for the holidays. This effort is designed to meet some of the needs of the elderly residents in Andover, and other local communities.

The Elder Baskets Program was modeled after the popular Baby Bundles initiative which helped out needy children. The baskets are for those elders who are assisted by agencies such as Home Health VNA and Elder Services, to help them feel less isolated in what can be a lonely time of year for some.

Appropriate things for the baskets include blankets, music cassettes and playing cards. Volunteers prepared the baskets last week and this week people will distribute them.

— Sara Brown  
What's Up contributor

## Quote, unquote . . .

I GET HOMESICK SOME DAYS BUT I don't show it. There (are) a lot more opportunities here for jobs and school.  
— Marcus Pierre, a student relocated from New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina, who attends the Greater Lawrence Technical School. (Story in Education, page 13)

WE ARE VOLUNTEERS, we don't have money or experience. So we can only use our connections and our enthusiasm.

— Andover resident Jennifer Zhang who is helping to bring the "Chinese New Year Global Gala" to Boston. (Story in Arts & Entertainment, page 19)

## News Calendar

Town government meetings posted by the town as of Monday, Dec. 12:

## Thursday, Dec. 15

Town of Andover Tree Warden, Town Offices, third floor conference room, 1 p.m.

Disability Commission, Memorial Hall Library, activity room, 7 p.m.

Housing Authority, 100 Morton Street, Andover, 7 p.m.

## Friday, Dec. 16

Massachusetts Highway Meeting, Town Offices, third floor conference room, 11 a.m.

## Monday, Dec. 19

Board of Health, Town Offices, second-floor conference room, 6 p.m.

Board of Selectmen, Town

Offices, third-floor conference room, 7:30 p.m.

## Tuesday, Dec. 20

School Committee, School Administration Building, School Committee room, 6:30 p.m.

Conservation Commission, Town Offices, third-floor conference room, 7:45 p.m.

## Wednesday, Dec. 21

Board of Selectmen, Town Offices, third-floor conference room, 7 p.m.

Recycling Committee, Town Offices, second-floor conference room, 7:30 p.m.

## Wednesday, Jan. 4

Tobacco Control Program, Town Offices, third-floor conference room, 10 a.m.

## Santa on line one for you, Sally

Santa was scheduled to be very busy talking on the phone with Andover families last night, Wednesday.

Fifty families signed up for a call from Santa during the first ever "Santa is Calling" program organized by town's Department of Community Services. Calls were made Wednesday night between 5 and 7 to those 50 homes from a Santa station set up in the DCS office. Five senior elves were on hand to help connect calls.

Legos, baby dolls and Ninja Turtles lead the list of gift

requests. Parents also provided the town with lists of good deeds by their kids that they hoped Santa would remember to mention.

"We got parents who wanted the call to be full of positive reinforcement," said Mary Donohue, director of DCS. "We think 50 responses is terrific for the first year."

Mrs. Claus was scheduled to dial the telephone number, make sure kids were home and then hand the phone to her jolly spouse.

— Judy Wakefield

## BBB: 'Jury duty' calls are frauds

Consumers are reporting to the Better Business Bureau evidence of identity thieves who claim to be making phone calls about jury duty.

Callers claiming to represent the court system tell the consumers that they failed to show up for jury duty. When the consumers tell the callers that they never received a summons for jury duty, the callers ask for Social Security and personal account information to verify their identities. The callers might try to scare the consumers by threatening warrants or fines.

## Extra hours for Christmas: Andover Post Office open Sunday

The Andover Post Office will provide special staffing for customers visiting the facility Sunday, Dec. 18, the last Sunday before Christmas.

Daniel F. Moynihan, officer-in-charge, said customer service associates will staff the Automated Postal Center (APC) at the Main Post Office at 10 Stevens St., between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. to assist people with their mailing needs.

The APC is the US Postal Service's version of the ATM. He noted the APC is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

## December clinics

The Andover Health Department will offer a mini clinics on Monday, Dec. 19 from 1 to 2 p.m. at Frye Circle. Senior-center clinics will be held 2 to 3 p.m. each Wednesday, Dec. 21 and 28. No appointment is necessary.

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## CAUGHT IN THE SNOW



Chuck Fittz clears snow away from his driveway during Friday's intense snowstorm.

## Friday's furious flurries

During Friday's white-out conditions, Andover Police scrambled to assist 27 disabled motor vehicles that had veered off the road or become stuck in the snow.

According to Lt. Kevin Winters, 21 of those calls came between 2:30 and 5 p.m. Winters said that at the height of the storm - around 2 p.m. - the snow was falling at about five inches per hour.

"It snowed fast and furious," Winters said. "I haven't seen white-out like that since the Blizzard of 1978."

Andover received an estimated 19 inches of snow, one of the highest totals in the area.

- Rita Savard



PHOTO BY RITA SAVARD

A driver who spun out on River Road during Friday's white-out conditions was one of many who had a difficult afternoon commute. Andover police assisted 27 disabled vehicles.

PHOTOS BY  
TIM JEAN



In the photo immediately above, a snowplow had trouble navigating the corner of Theodore Avenue and Lowell Street. Police reported several plows having difficulty on the roadways.

At left, Jack Fittz, 2, helped his dad (seen in top photo) clear his driveway.

At right, Chris Dona of Chandler Road clears the white stuff from his driveway with a snow thrower.



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# Pajamas as Christmas gift not as bad as you think

By Courtney Fiske  
What's Up Contributor

Imagine a child's surprise when a secret Santa brings him pajamas for Christmas. No dolls, no toy trucks, no Legos: just a pair of flannel pants and a button-up shirt. Thanks to the student council at the Greater Lawrence Technical School, many needy youngsters will find pajamas under their trees this Christmas. Although the logic behind this holiday pajama drive may seem counterintuitive, it is actually quite sensible: if parents are not forced to buy

necessities—in this case, pajamas—they can give their children what they really want: toys.

Dan Warner, former editor-in-chief of the Eagle Tribune, had this epiphany 11 years ago. In conjunction with the student council at the vocational high school on Rive Road in Andover, Warner organized the collection of pajamas for children aged six months to three years. A few weeks before Christmas that first year, students and administrators, dressed in festive clothing, gathered at a "Pajama Wrap" to cover the

bedtime clothes with colorful wrapping paper. The next day, the student council delivered these wrapped pajamas to the Salvation Army, which then distributed them.

Tonight, Thursday, the tradition continues at 5 p.m. Dining on pizza and soda, up to 50 students will wrap more than 150 pairs of pajamas donated from members of the local community. If past Pajama Wraps set any precedent, participants can expect others to arrive in crazy costumes, from moose antlers, to fairy princess gowns, to Kris Kringle

suits. Despite these flashy get-ups, Superintendent Frank Vacirca says that his school tries to keep its benevolent activities on the down low. "We like to keep it quiet. We let the students be unsung heroes. We don't do it for the recognition. We do it to help the parents out," he said.

To further celebrate the spirit of the season, the school annually enters a tree in the Festival of the Trees in Methuen. Last year, their fairy-themed pine tree, titled Flurries, won best in show. This year, they hope for a repeat perfor-

mance with their "white Cinderella" tree, decorated by cosmetology students.

Anyone who wishes to join the holiday philanthropy can easily become involved. The school, and the Salvation Army, still welcome any gifts of newly purchased pajamas, to be delivered directly to the Greater Lawrence Technical School.

The writer is an Andover resident and student at Phillips Academy. High school and college students can contribute to the Townsman.



State Rep. Barry Finegold, Amy and new addition Ella Mae, who joins 2-year-old sister Ava.

## Snow baby for state rep.

Off-duty EMT helps Finegolds to hospital

With help from some friends to reach the hospital during a blinding snowstorm, Amy Finegold, wife of Andover State Rep. Barry Finegold and owner of dresscode, gave birth Friday to the couple's second daughter, Ella Mae Finegold.

Ella Mae Finegold was born at 6:43 p.m. at Lowell General Hospital and weighed 8 pounds and 12 ounces.

James Cuticchia, an off-duty Andover firefighter who has delivered three babies in his professional life, drove the family to the hospital, said Barry Finegold. Finegold called Cuticchia, a friend, once his wife went into labor. Residents Annette and Daniel Grams had gone to the Finegold house and plowed the eight inches of snow that had fallen at that point for them, he said.



Delaney Sawyer, Julia Fraser, Ashley Atkins, Tommy Atkins and Brent Graffmuller enjoyed creating snowmen on Haggetts Pond Road.

## THE BACK PAGE

# Pound for pound, the best dog column



Bill Dalton

In my earliest memories, I wake up before anyone else, find our shaggy old cocker spaniel and lie down next to him with my head on his side. I remember his pleasing smell and warmth. His name was Peter and my Aunt Francis painted a picture of him that hangs on my wall today.

I have always liked dogs. However, as much as I like dogs and become attached to them, my experience with them has been varied to the extremes. The dog we had for most of my childhood was a strange, white Fox Terrier named Toby. If he'd been human he would have been confined for life in a correctional facility. He pathologically loved to fight, and, in spite of his smallness, he'd fight any dog no matter how big or nasty. He'd take a bone and use it for bait. Leaving it near the sidewalk, he'd wait in the bushes for an unsuspecting dog to come along. Pound for pound he may have been the toughest dog in Andover, but often he was outclassed in size. He had so many scars that he looked like a baseball.

Toby also had a split-personality routine for humans. My brother, Bucky, brought a friend home from college. Toby greeted the visitor by wagging his tail and licking the guest's hand. Hours later, the guest was left alone for a few moments, and Toby began to stalk him. Inching his way toward the visitor, Toby bared his fangs and growled threateningly. A member of the family entered the room, and the dog immediately switched personalities to become the sweet, loving greeter that the guest had seen earlier. Toby never bit a human, but he made a few perspire.

When he was 14, two boxers teamed up to do him in. It was sad, but we all knew it was how he'd have wanted to go.

As an adult, my first dog was a beagle. From where I acquired him, I had to drive two hours to home. At the beginning of the trip the puppy threw up on my lap. Between the smell of puppy puke and a gooey lap, it was a very long trip. In those days, Ralph was another word for vomiting; thus, the dog was named "Ralph." He lived a very, very long time or at least it seemed so. During that life, he'd roam away for days, bark constantly when home, and could smell up a room badly enough that its occupants would evacuate it. Yet, he was most noted for his licking of human mouths. Ralph was especially fond of mouths with food in them. He was also a terrific jumper, with the vertical leap of a star basketball player.

One evening some folks visited prior to going to the Andona Ball. I was talking with a tuxedo-attired fellow who was eating hors d'oeuvres. In a perfectly athletic way and with surgical precision, Ralph jumped high and his tongue flashed out into the gentleman's mouth. The man, to his everlasting credit, looked at me calmly and said, "Excuse me, but what was that?"

For Ralph, every human was simply just another mouth to conquer. I am ashamed to say that I thought it was kind of humorous.

Ralph was followed by three consecutive bulldogs. They were wonderful animals, but the second bulldog broke my family's collective heart. She was the runt of the litter and was cute, lovable and soft, with a pleasant personality. One day, when the kids had come home from college, she excitedly ran up the

stairs to see them and dropped dead. She was only 6. We tried everything to revive her, but her heart had stopped and wouldn't restart.

Three years ago, my wife and I acquired an adult Boston Terrier from a shelter. His name is Buddy, and his only bad trait is that he believes he is Superdog. One day when we had the second floor windows open, Buddy saw a squirrel in a tree, and he immediately leaped through the open window in pursuit. I'll never know why he did it or why he thought he could fly, but my wife saw it happen and frantically rushed down the stairs expecting to find a dead dog. She opened the outside door, and there was Buddy wagging his tail in expectation of praise. He had landed on the hot tub cover rather than the concrete patio. The impact was such that, even now, the imprint of his chest and feet on the lid fills with water after a rain.

This first experience with our shelter Boston Terrier naively led us to get another shelter Boston Terrier. She was a pathetic little wretch who had been found by the side of a road on a rainy night. Her rear leg was shattered, but the shelter found a veterinarian who put her back together.

It was thought that she would never have full, if any, use of the leg. She had come with the cute name of "Missy," and she seemed very sweet. Right after acquiring her, we took Missy for her first walk. Within seconds, she jerked the leash from my wife's hand, shot across a parking lot on three legs, and attached herself to the side of the much larger spaniel. The dog's owner panicked and spun in circles, her dog spinning around her on the other end of his leash with Missy tenaciously flying along beside him. Not one of Missy's legs was touching the ground. Around and around they flew, like one of those old toy airplanes that circle on a wire, until my wife breathlessly wrenched open Missy's jaws. After apologizing and retreating to our house, we renamed our dog "Circé," after a witch in Homer's *Odyssey* who had both good and bad sides to her (she turned Ulysses' men into pigs).

A few days later, a Pug, not leashed, charged at Circé in a threatening manner. The Pug needed several stitches and developed a nasty infection but survived. Circé defied predictions and within a few months had the full use of her bad leg. Pound for pound she may be the toughest dog ... wait a minute, I said that before. Do dogs reincarnate? Forty-five years after Toby's death, has he returned?

Dalton is a former Andover selectman who writes from Texas.

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## OBITUARIES

**Peter A. Fine**

*Was active at South Church in Andover*

Peter A. Fine, 62, died Saturday, Dec. 10, at the Heritage Manor in Lowell after a short illness.



Peter A. Fine

A long-time resident of Andover, he was a very active member of South Church.

He was born in Beverly on April 10, 1943. He

was the son of Jacob and Katherine Fleming Fine and was lovingly raised by his caregiver, Molly Hopson. He was educated at the Shore School, Phillips Exeter Academy and Harvard College, class of 1966.

After college, he joined the Army and served a year in Vietnam working in psychological operations, returning as a first lieutenant.

He graduated from Boston University Law School in 1972, clerked for a federal judge and went on to practice law in Boston for 20 years with several first-line firms.

He settled in Andover more than 20 years ago, remaining during a difficult period of depression. In recent years, he lived with dear friends, Camellia and David Sullivan of Andover.

Friends said he regained his sense of self at last and began the final chapter of his life.

In the spring of 2003, he became a member of South Church where he literally threw himself into every element of the church's life. His support of the youth program was an important call and he participated in every element of the program, from confirmation classes to mission trips in the southeastern United States. His involvement in adult education and other study activities relied on his well-educated, questioning mind. He would continually challenge the church to live up to the more difficult standards of Christ's teachings. In his own words, these were the best years of his life.

Members of his family include his brother and sister-in-law, Tom Fine and Tricia Maffeo; sister and her family, Johannah Fine, John Weisel, Anna Weisel and Ngoc, Cao, My, Phong, Oanh and the other boys; and several cousins, including Lorrie Fine who served as his primary caregiver during his final weeks.

He was twice married and divorced, first to Carol Ganz and then to Ramona Martinez Fine, both of whom survive him.

A celebration of his life will be held at South Church in Andover in January, at a time to be announced later.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Youth Program, South Church, 41 Central St., Andover, 01810.

**Ernest O. Storlazzi**

*Manager in the garment industry*

Ernest O. Storlazzi, 84, of Andover, the beloved husband of Frances J. (Catalano) Storlazzi for 62 years, died Sunday, Dec. 11 at the Holy Family Hospital in Methuen, after a brief illness.

He was born in East Boston on Nov. 21, 1921, the son of the late Armand and Marietta (Porreca) Storlazzi. Mr. Storlazzi was a graduate of Somerville High School and Gold's School of Design. He was employed in the garment industry by well-known manufacturers such as Brooks Brothers, Jonathan Logan, Ralph Lauren and Skyr, and worked in managerial positions.

Family members said he loved history, gardening, and sports — especially traveling to see his grandson Sean Ryan of South Carolina as a player and coach in basketball.

In addition to his wife and grandson, members of his family include two daughters, Janice M. Ryan of Andover and Judy E. Desmarais of Lawrence; two grandchildren, including Kevin M. Ryan of Andover; and a sister, Olga Boni of Arlington.

He was the brother of the late Edmund Storlazzi of Arlington, Melba Gundersen of Mattapan, and Rudolph Storlazzi of Framingham, as well as several nieces and nephews.

Calling hours were scheduled for yesterday, Wednesday, from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Dewhurst & Conte Funeral Home, 28 Florence St., Andover.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated today, Thursday, at 10:30 a.m. at St. Augustine Church in Andover.

Burial will follow in Spring Grove Cemetery in Andover.

**William Reed Allen**

*Electrical engineer was formerly of Andover*

William Reed Allen, 76, of Bonita Springs, Fla. and formerly of Reading and Andover, died Sunday, Dec. 11, at Sawtelle Family Hospice House in Reading.

Born and educated in Medford, Mr. Allen graduated with the class of 1947 and enjoyed a long, successful career in electrical engineering with Honeywell-Bull, Adage Systems, and Sequoia Systems. He and his wife retired to Bonita Springs.

He was the widower of Janet (Bedley) Allen.

Members of his family include daughters and their husbands, Janet and Paul Moroney of North Andover, JoAnne and David Oram of Woburn, Kathy and Gordon Whittaker of Reading, Joyce and Zaki Nakhoul of Reading, Jennifer and Stephen Plantedosi of Leominster, and

Cynthia and William Grant of Billerica; sons and their wives, William Allen Jr. and Ginger of Stoneham, and Robert Allen and Nancy of Westford; 20 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and siblings, Lois Smyth of Florida, Raymond Allen of Wilmington, and Ralph Allen of Wilmington.

Calling hours were scheduled for yesterday, Wednesday, Dec. 14 from 4 to 8 p.m. at Cota Funeral Home, 335 Park St., North Reading.

Funeral services are today, Thursday, Dec. 15 at 10 a.m. with burial in Woodbrook Cemetery, Woburn.

Memorial contributions may be made to Nevins Alzheimer's Family Care Center, Attn: Jeanne Turgeon, 12 Ingalls Court, Methuen, MA 01844; or Sawtelle Family Hospice House, 320 Haverhill St., Reading, MA 01867.



Ernest O. Storlazzi

**Michael DiMeo**

*Tool and die maker was married 69 years*

Michael DiMeo, 90, of Andover, died Thursday, Dec. 8, at his residence surrounded by family.

He was employed for 15 years at Western Electric in Kearney, N.J. as a tool and die maker. He then became an entrepreneur in the food concession business and managing investment properties.

Family members said he enjoyed dancing and was fondly called "Grandpa Mike" by his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

## DEATHS

**William Reed Allen, 76**  
**Rene J. Boisvert, 77**  
**Alida Corry, 87**  
**Michael DiMeo, 90**  
**Peter A. Fine, 62**  
**Marian D. Laaff, 84**  
**Joseph Sapienza III, 60**  
**Ernest O. Storlazzi, 84**

## DEATHS ELSEWHERE

**BOISVERT** — Rene J. Boisvert, 77, of Lawrence, died Wednesday, Dec. 7 at home. Mr. Boisvert worked for many years at Raytheon in Andover.

**SAPIENZA** — Joseph Sapienza III, 60, of Lawrence, died Sunday, Dec. 11 at home. Members of his family include his daughter, Sherril, and her husband, Enno Tjalsma; and granddaughter, Madison Tjalsma, all of Andover.

Members of his family include his wife, the former Yolanda "Viola" D'Ambra, with whom he recently celebrated his 69th wedding anniversary; a daughter, Lucille Giannone of Andover; a sister, Millie Rinaldi of Kings Park, N.Y.; a brother, John DiMeo of Queens, N.Y.; three grandchildren, including Luan Giannone of Andover, and Anthony and his wife Joscelyn Giannone, also of Andover; and three great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Creative Living, P.O. Box 3177, Andover, 01810; or Visiting Nurse Association of Middlesex-East & Visiting Nurse Hospice, 607 North Ave., Wakefield, MA 01881.

**Alida Corry**

*Lived here over 50 years*

Alida (Caron) Corry, 87, of Andover, died Monday, Dec. 12 at Academy Manor Nursing Home, Andover.

Mrs. Corry was born, raised and educated in Lawrence. She had lived in Andover for more than 50 years.

She had worked in the former Pacific Mills of Lawrence, and

in more recent years, she had worked at the Internal Revenue Service in Andover.

Mrs. Corry was a member of St. Augustine's Parish, Andover, and had attended St. Joseph's Church in Ballardvale for many years.

She loved to knit and entertain.

She was the widow of Robert C. Corry.

Members of her family include her son, Robert A. and his wife Charlotte Corry of Brimfield; and two daughters, Mary Jane Corry of Andover, and Kathleen Corry Aubrey and her husband Kevin Aubrey of Bedford; two sisters, Claire Archambault of Cape Cod, and Sanibel, Fla., and Evelyn Schelling of Methuen; seven grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her son-in-law, Michael T. Sullivan.

Friends may call tomorrow, Friday, Dec. 16 from 9 to 10 a.m. at the Charles Dewhurst Andover Funeral Home, 33 Pearson St., Andover.

A funeral Mass will follow at 10:30 a.m. in St. Augustine Church, Andover.

The burial will follow in Spring Grove Cemetery,

Andover.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, Massachusetts Chapter, 311 Arsenal St., Watertown, MA 02472.

**Marian D. Laaff**

*Memorial reception is Saturday*

Marian D. (Wilson) Laaff, 84, of Andover, died Thursday, Dec. 8, of liver cancer.

She was the widow of George S. Laaff.

Members of her family include her children, Jeffrey Laaff of Salem, Mass., Friedel Laaff of Barcelona, Spain, and Carol Laaff of Cypress, Texas; and five grandchildren.

A reception in her memory will be held Saturday, Dec. 17 from 1 to 4 p.m., at the home of her son, Jeffrey Laaff, 24 Winter St., Salem.

Memorial contributions may be made to Union of Concerned Scientists, 2 Brattle Square, Cambridge, MA 02138; or gift-info@ucsusu.org.

## ALL THOSE YEARS AGO

## 100 Years Ago — 1905

A regular meeting of the Natural History Society was held at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Charles E. Abbott last Saturday evening, where there were about 12 members present. Dr. Abbott gave a talk about bacteria and illustrated it with a number of specimens of the dreaded microbes under a magnifying glass.

The annual fair of the Juvenile Missionary Society will be held in the West Church vestry on Friday evening. The tables will include aprons, candies, vegetables, and woodwork. An oyster supper will be served.

Miss Mary Black, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Black of Howarth Court, was compelled to have the little finger of one of her hands amputated this week after having severely burned it with carbolic acid.

"The Prophet of West Roxbury" will be the sermon subject at the Unitarian Church next Sunday morning at 10:30.

The St. Augustine Church Fair opened Tuesday evening and continued through Thursday night. The fair was held for the benefit of the parochial residence fund. Items sold included tonic, china, linens, pincushions, doilies, cut glass, and vases. The most popular table was the mystery table, where, for 10 cents, one could buy a small package filled with a mystery item.

An organ recital was given by John Bachieder at Christ Church last Sunday evening. However, as a result of poor weather, attendance was low.

On Monday afternoon, Ellery H. Clark presented a lecture on the work of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children to the ladies of the November Club.

The Roger Wolcott Boys' Club met on Tuesday evening at the Old North Church. There, the Rev. J. Edgar Park of the West Parish Church gave an unusually interesting address about how to travel abroad.

Owls seem to have become numerous throughout the town. On Wednesday night, a fine one was shot by an enthusiastic sportsman.

The trustees of Andover Savings Bank, at a meeting held on Tuesday morning, declared a semi-annual dividend of two percent, payable on the third Wednesday of this month.

The snow rollers purchased for this town were used for the first time on Monday, and there is a diversity of opinion regarding their benefit to travel. It is thought by the heads of the highway department that they have not been given a fair trial as the snow was pretty well trodden down before they were brought out.

James Falconer of Abbot Village, the prominent fancier in livestock, has entered the show at Brockton this week. He is to visit the show tomorrow and expects to carry away several prizes.

## 50 Years Ago — 1955

An artist's conception of the new Ballardvale school and some working drawings were shown to the school committee on Tuesday night. Perley F. Gilbert Associates, the architectural firm doing the work, said the 12-classroom building with a library, cafeteria, gymnasium, auditorium, and general purpose room should cost about \$480,000 for construction alone. The proposed plans are completely modern in design with ample use of glass.

Two unusual coin collections will be on display here until next week at the Bay State Merchants National Bank on Main Street. These collections of silver and gold coins come from the First National City Bank of New York. Included in these 336 coins is the first issue of gold coins bearing the name of the United States of America, and a silver coin from 1486.

The building permit totals

from last month have just been calculated. The total was valued at \$642,000, with \$357,000 in new building permits issued, and \$284,700 issued for additions and alterations. Largest among the additions were those of the Pike School and West Middle School.

The fifth annual Camellia Ball, held at Andover Country Club for the benefit of the Lawrence General Hospital, took place on Sunday evening.

Several members of the Andover Garden Club were awarded first prizes at their flower show and sale of Christmas greens Tuesday afternoon at the Andover Inn.

Miss Margaret Watson was elected person of the week for the Andover Public Schools. Miss Watson is the senior class secretary, Student Council secretary, Junior Red Cross president, and a member of the yearbook committee. She plans to enter the business world after her graduation from Punchard High.

The annual Christmas service will be held Sunday at 7:30 in Davis Hall at Abbot Academy. The entire student body will participate. Mrs. Alexander Crane, principal, will give the address, and Raymond Coon of the school's music department will present a program of organ music. The audience will join in the singing of Christmas hymns.

An energetic new political committee will sponsor two candidates for the School Committee in the annual town election. Groups of young parents, most of them with children in the primary grades, have been meeting informally and will soon hold a public meeting for all others who are interested.

An Andover boy has been elected captain of the Phillips Academy football team for the first time in 35 years. He is James D'Angelo, son of Mr. and Mrs. James D'Angelo of South Main Street.

Residents of West Andover will have an opportunity to find out what industrial zoning means to them at a meeting Monday night in the old North District school. The industrial development commission will sponsor the informal hearing as a result of many pointed questions for West Andover residents as to whose land may be within the proposed industrial area.

## 25 Years Ago — 1980

Some Shawsheen residents are seriously concerned about the prospect of a twin cinema and 10 new stores opening at Shawsheen Plaza, and they plan to appear before the selectmen on Monday night to protest those plans. According to the petition residents are circulating throughout the town, the traffic generated by the new cinema and stores will compound problems in an already congested area and hinder the mobility of the police and fire departments.

New England Telephone is undertaking a major cable expansion and improvement project in Andover. Nearly three miles of aerial and underground cable is being placed along South Main Street, Hidden and Porter roads, and Woburn Street. More than 1,000 feet of conduit and one new manhole were placed along Hidden and Porter roads to house the underground cable. The work is expected to be completed by the end of this year.

The Andover League of Women Voters will hold its annual Holiday Brunch on Friday, Dec. 12 at 9:15 a.m. in the home of Sue Dennet, 68 Central St. The League will be reviewing State League positions on such topics as fiscal policy, education, and natural resources.

Plans to renovate the two remaining wings of East Junior High School, after Memorial Auditorium becomes part of the new Doherty Junior High School, may be scrapped because of the tax-cutting measures of Proposition 2½. Town Manager Jared Clark had hoped to use the East Junior High School wings to house town and school administration offices, and sell the present town hall to a private developer.

A rare astronomical event, called a triple conjunction, will occur this New Year's Eve. This means that Jupiter passes Saturn three times within a year—Dec. 31 and again March 4 and July 23. The next time that the bright Jupiter and the fainter Saturn will pass close to each other in the sky three times in a row will be in 2238-39. The last displays were in 1940-41 and 1682-83.

—Compiled by WHAT'S UP contributor Courtney Fiske

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# Police concerned about sex registering

## SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY

Continued from page 2

abeyance until 2001, McDonald said all sex offenders were still required to register.

"The Sex Offender Registry has a look back period, requiring anyone dating back to Aug. 1, 1981, or subsequent to that period, to register," said McDonald.

But police believe a bigger problem still remains given the series of court rulings which effectively shut down the Registry for a few years. They believe that people who should be registered are not.

### Paquette case

Paquette was arrested by Andover police in January following an incident at the Methuen church that led to the arrest of fellow church member Kevin F. Curlew of Dracut. Curlew was allegedly abusing a child

sexually inside the church.

Police said investigations into the church revealed that Paquette, a former volunteer librarian there, had not been filing what police said are mandatory annual information checks with the Sex Offender Registry Board dating back to 1997.

Paquette's attorney, Alexander Cain of Andover, did not return repeated phone calls from the *Townsmen*.

Methuen police reported investigating Paquette further after learning that the Andover resident, along with Curlew, was put in charge of watching children during church services. Again, no one accused Paquette of any inappropriate action at the church.

According to records from the Andover Police Department, Det. Wnek from the Methuen Police Department called Andover

Police Sgt. Donald Pattullo, advising him that Paquette was in violation for not checking in with the sex offender registry.

Police conducted background checks on Paquette which revealed two 1970 convictions in Somerville District Court for indecent assault and battery on a child, and another conviction for the same charge in 1984 at Chelsea District Court.

The Sex Offender Registry Board confirmed Paquette was in violation for not registering with them as an offender, according to police records, meaning he could be arrested without a warrant.

"We allege that he failed to register as a sex offender," said Steve O'Connell, spokesperson for the Essex County district attorney's office. "He has pleaded not guilty to that charge. It will go to trial before a jury on Jan. 5."

## POLICE LOG

### ARRESTS

Wednesday, Dec. 7 - At 1:17 p.m., Zachary Bunick, 18, of 19 Marland St., was arrested and charged with larceny from a person.

At 3:11 p.m., a resident called from Gradall Lane to report that he had an argument with another male who was blocking the road and would not move his vehicle. He said the driver of the other vehicle then got out of his car with a brush and threatened to kill the caller, according to police. As a result, Thomas J. LaPointe Jr., 27, of 6 Rattlesnake Hill Road, was arrested and charged with assault and battery with a dangerous weapon (a brush).

Thursday, Dec. 8 - At 10:59 p.m., Sebastian P. Mula, 50, of 86 Murphy Road, Hudson, was arrested and charged on a warrant from Hudson, Mass., for domestic violence charges.

Monday, Dec. 12 - At 11:38 p.m., Jeffrey M. Carmody, 23, of 69 Lynn St., Apt. 2, Lawrence, was arrested and charged with failure to notify the Registry of Motor Vehicles of name and address change, motor vehicle light violations, possession of a Class D substance (a subsequent offense) and possession of a Class E substance.

Tuesday, Dec. 13 - At 7:23 a.m., Carlos M. Alba, 46, of 236 Lawrence Street, Apt. 3, Lawrence, was arrested and charged with unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle and uninsured vehicle.

### INCIDENTS

Wednesday, Dec. 7 - At 1:55 a.m., a resident reported a barking dog on Ridge Street and said the dog had been barking for 30 minutes. Officer spoke with the dog's owner who stated that she was sorry and will make peace with neighbors in the morning.

At 12:12 p.m., an officer reported that the front door of a

house on Reservation Road was wide open. After investigating, the officer reported that the homeowner was at home and that her dog was outside and pushed the door open to get in.

Thursday, Dec. 8 - At 8:33 a.m., a Copley Drive resident reported a black minivan in the area. A man got out of the van and took pictures of the caller's house. The man was described in his late 50's, gray and white hair, 170 pounds, 5'10" and wearing an overcoat. An officer checked the area.

Thursday, Dec. 8 - At 2:53 p.m., a Railroad Street resident reported that her neighbor had been harassing her. The caller said the neighbor had been yelling at her and saying things about her daughter. Officer reported speaking to all parties involved.

Thursday, Dec. 8 - At 11:17 p.m., a resident reported she was concerned that her husband, who has been drinking since 7 p.m., might attempt to drive home from a bar in Lawrence and he is intoxicated. Officers sat in the area for a while, but the subject did not pass by.

Friday, Dec. 9 - At 2:45 a.m., a resident called to request an officer after she locked herself in her bedroom to stay away from her husband, whom she said was intoxicated. She said that her husband had just arrived home after being at a bar all night. Officers transported the male subject to his office to sleep. The woman was informed of her rights.

At 10:14 a.m., a registered sex offender and resident came into the station to report that a neighbor was harassing him, violating the sex offender registry law. An officer said the neighbor denied the harassment.

At 11 a.m., a Pendant Court resident reported that a man was hunting with a bow about 30 yards from a home. Officer talked to the caller who stated

that the hunter was heading towards the power lines so there would be no problem.

At 7:47 p.m., a subject called 911 to report that a female was walking in the road dressed all in black. The caller was concerned for her safety. Police checked the area without finding the person.

Saturday, Dec. 10 - At 5:21 p.m., a resident reported that her 18-year-old son was being belligerent. Officer reported this was a verbal disagreement and the son went to a friend's house for the night.

At 11:58 p.m., a Memorial Circle resident reported that he was assaulted by a subject known to him. The suspect may have left the scene in a silver SUV, possibly en route to Salem, N.H. An officer requested an ambulance for facial pain, but no transport was necessary.

Sunday, Dec. 11 - At 1:53 p.m., a 911 caller reported a 3-year-old on Stevens Street had no coat and was standing at the end of the driveway, screaming. An officer searched the area without success.

At 9:31 p.m., a passerby reported that two kids climbed a snowbank on North Main Street and were on the roof area where vehicles were parked. An officer reported he spotted the youths in question on Haverhill Street and they were using a mound of snow as a ski jump. Their father was with them.

Monday, Dec. 12 - At 4:13 p.m., a resident who noticed footprints in the snow around her home said she believed it might be someone she has a restraining order against. A neighbor believed the tracks were made by kids in the neighborhood.

Tuesday, Dec. 13 - At 4:26 p.m., the Andover Fire Department reported a pit bull running down Central Street by Phillips Street. An animal control officer checked the area with negative

results.

At 5:15 p.m., a caller stated that there were kids on Route 125 throwing ice or snowballs at passing cars. Officer checked the area with negative results.

At 6:58 p.m., a caller reported that a couple of male subjects in a lot at Elm Square were being disruptive and rude, possibly intoxicated. Officer reported that all is calm now and the person doing the yelling has left.

At midnight, police received a report of a 19-year-old male who was threatening suicide by pills and a knife. The subject was transported via ambulance to Lawrence General Hospital.

### AUTO INCIDENTS

Thursday, Dec. 8 - At 4:24 p.m., a River Road caller reported that an employee took a company car the previous day and had not returned it. The vehicle was reported as stolen.

### THEFTS

Thursday, Dec. 8 - At 8:54 a.m., a Tamys Lane resident reported an identify theft.

At 9:53 p.m., a Hall Avenue resident reported that someone had stolen her grill cover.

### BREAKS

Wednesday, Dec. 7 - At 11:24 a.m., a representative from the Andover Baptist Church came into the station to report a possible breaking and entering. An officer reported this was an attempted breaking and entering to the building and he will file a report.

### AUTO ACCIDENTS

Thursday, Dec. 8 - At 2:39 p.m., caller reported that a female student was hit by a motor vehicle on River Road. The student did get up and said she was OK. An officer reported the student would be transported

Continued on page 8

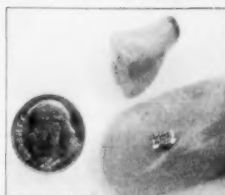
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## POLICE LOG

### LOG

Continued from page 7

to Lawrence General Hospital.

Friday, Dec. 9 - At 10:39 a.m., there was a report of a motor vehicle off the road on North Main Street. An officer reported that the woman was waiting for her husband to drive the car home.

At 10:46 a.m., there was a

report of a motor vehicle off Highland Road. An officer reported that a person passing by would help pull the car out of the snow.

At 2:47 p.m., someone reported a car in the middle of Candlewood Drive with no one around it. Over the next hour there were other reports of several vehicles going off roads because of the snowy condi-

tions.

Saturday, Dec. 10 - At 3:58 p.m., a caller from Elm Street reported a motor vehicle accident with possible injuries.

Monday, Dec. 12 - At 12:16 p.m., a resident came into the station to report a hit-and-run by a snowplow during the storm.

COMPILED BY GRETA CUYLER



COURTESY PHOTO

This photo from James and Catherine Hauer's property shows puddling on the Hauer's land and near the cabana (which is behind the tree on the other side of the fence).

## Changes since verbal approval?

### CABANA

Continued from page 1

with a footprint more than four times larger than the original site plan," wrote Joseph Walsh of O'Sullivan Architects Inc., in part. "I do not know if the Andover Conservation Commission or the Building Department were made aware of this change."

O'Sullivan Architects of Wakefield was hired by Gibson property abutters James and Catherine Hauer.

Former Conservation Director James Greer verbally approved the so-called cabana at 3 Hazelwood Circle, but the Oct. 6, 2004 plans he eyed showed a smaller building, not the nearly

1,300 square foot structure that stands today, said Douglas. Walsh, the hired architect, says these plans show a 192-square-foot building.

A little more than two months later, the cabana grew to be more than four times the original size, according to Walsh.

Kaija Gilmore, the town's building director, did not return a phone call by *Townsmen* deadline.

"My understanding is that there was nothing hidden from Greer and that the poolhouse did not somehow multiply in size," said Mark Johnson, the attorney for the Gibsons.

Johnson argues the Gibsons cabana is allowed under a bylaw passed at 1999 Town Meeting that exempts additions to existing homes from the wetlands bylaw.

No matter which set of cabana plans one looks at, Douglas said each clearly show the distance from the wetlands to be less than 50 feet from the cabana. In the Oct. 6, 2004

plans, the wetlands were 18 feet away at the closest point., the two subsequent iterations (on Dec. 20, 2004 and Jan. 24, 2005) show wetlands at a distance of just 14 feet.

Douglas and Paul Finger, a conservation commissioner, visited the Gibson land on Friday, Dec. 2 and Douglas said the wetland markers looked like they had been re-delineated closer to the cabana, meaning that the wetlands are closer than originally reported.

"When we dug a hole (beside the cabana), it instantly filled up with water," he said.

Water flows down a hill behind the cabana, along hay bales behind the building, Douglas said. He said this water is being directed away from the cabana and he has seen puddles of this water near the pool equipment behind the cabana.

He has requested a copy of new plans, showing revised wetland delineations, when the Gibsons provide information to the state Department of Environmental Protection.

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# Opinion

## The right tax

ANDOVER HAS BEEN SUCCESSFUL in creating affordable housing in town, which can help people who grew up in town to remain here. Now it needs to do more to ensure people moving into these homes are taxed appropriately.

Janet Trachym's case, detailed on page 1, shows that people buying their first affordable home can be taxed by the town as if they are living in market-rate units.

Trachym should have read her bill, realized it was incorrect and filed an abatement. She failed to do so. But the reality is that people moving into affordable homes are often first-time home buyers who are not familiar with filing for abatements and do not know they must do so within 30 days.

Since the town wants to promote affordable housing, it should work harder to ensure the assessor's office knows which units are affordable.

Now is the time for officials to determine what they need to do to share information, because a pair of large affordable housing developments could be coming soon. On Route 133, at the former Rolling Green hotel site across from the Internal Revenue Service, a 191-unit apartment complex is planned. While the courts will decide if AvalonBay can build its proposed plan, that company is looking to create a 115-unit affordable housing project on River Road.

Town officials should use Trachym's case as a sign that they have a problem to fix if they want to make it easier for the residents in affordable homes to afford to live here.

### Web question

#### Should town give tax rebate?

Last week's Andover Townsman Web-site question was about last weekend's Holiday Happenings event downtown. Cold weather kept the turnout low, so the downtown business group is talking about moving some events indoors next year. Good idea?

- 20 people responded.
- 2 people, or 10 percent, said, "Yes, the cold weather did indeed keep me home last weekend. But if something fun were offered indoors, I would have ventured out."
- 9 people, or 45 percent, said, "Yes, that sounds like a good idea. But don't move all of the festivities indoors, part of the holiday season is about shopping outdoors when you're in downtown Andover."
- 2 people, or 10 percent, said, "No, absolutely not. I went this year and had a great time. Leave it alone."
- 7 people, or 35 percent, said, "No. I'm just not a big fan of nighttime events and it took me an extra 15 minutes to get home because Main street traffic was blocked off. Let's have a one-day event on a Saturday."
- No one said, "Other."

This week's Andover Townsman Web-site question concerns the town taxing a resident of an affordable housing unit based on a market rate value (see story on page 1). Janet Trachym said she paid over \$1,100 more than she should have in residential taxes last year and wishes the town was more diligent in recording affordable units in Andover so that tax bills will be correct. What do you think?

- The town needs to refund her the extra payment. They can't blame state law for the reason they can do nothing.
- There are few enough new affordable units in town each year that the town should learn to track them accurately.
- It's the homeowner's responsibility. We all get quarterly tax bills and we have to read them to ensure they are correct. Affordable unit or market value home, it doesn't matter. As taxpayers, we all have the same responsibility.
- Other.

### LETTERS POLICY

THE Townsman accepts letters to the editor from the community. Letters must be typed and no longer than two, double-spaced pages. All letter writers must include addresses and phone numbers with their letters. The phone numbers will not be published.

The paper reserves the right to edit letters at its discretion. Reasons for editing include editing for length, clarity and style.

Letters should be received by the Townsman by Monday at 5 p.m. for consideration in that week's paper. They may be sent by mail, fax or e-mail. Letters sent by e-mail should be sent to Neil Fater at [nfater@andovertownsmen.com](mailto:nfater@andovertownsmen.com), and included in the body of an e-mail, not as e-mail attachments.

As a general rule, the paper does not publish anonymous letters or thank-you letters.

## Andover Townsman

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## BIG STORM, BIGGER SNOWMAN



Skylar Raiston, 6, puts a final touch - a stick arm - onto the 8-foot tall snowman her uncle, Dennis Collins, made for her near the Shawsheen area soccer fields.

## LETTERS

### LANDFILL

#### League calls for more airing of landfill issues

Editor, Townsman:

The League of Women Voters of Andover/North Andover believes that concerns about potential health issues should be addressed prior to capping the West Andover landfill.

The landfill was used for the disposal of industrial wastes and residential municipal wastes for many years prior to being closed in the 1970s. A former quarry, the landfill is 50 to 70 feet deep and much of its contents are located in the groundwater. This groundwater flows through the landfill and is discharged to the Fish Brook watershed, which is a source of the town's drinking water. What are the results of recent tests by environmental consultant Camp Dresser & McKee? Do these results support the position that groundwater discharge from the landfill is not harmful to human or animal health?

A further concern is whether the makeup of the groundwater-borne contaminants will change over time. A recent Townsman article ("Landfill watchdog seeks proper capping, use," Dec. 1, page 1) shows pictures of steel drums in the landfill vicinity. Assuming that these surface drums indicate the presence of buried drums, and that some drums have yet to rust through, do we know what industrial wastes may still be added to the groundwater contaminants when the drums fail?

There appears to be agreement that the landfill should be capped, but capping does not prevent groundwater from flowing through the landfill. Will a liner or some form of landfill leachate treatment be required to prevent contaminants from being discharged from the landfill? As the Department of Environmental Protection has yet to approve the final landfill closure plan, it would seem fiscally prudent to determine if the final plan requires a liner prior to spending millions of dollars to cap the landfill.

The Public Involvement Plan (PIP) recently filed by several Andover residents requires a public disclosure of information concerning the landfill. The League endorses a public discussion of these issues.

Peggy Kruse  
145 Argilla Road  
President  
League of Women Voters  
Andover/North Andover

## Sour note for an 8-year-old



Neil Fater

After all, Brianna took violin lessons last year, in second grade. Last April, the Atwoods sent a check and application to reserve Brianna's spot in the after-school music program this year. Their \$35 check, made out to "the Town of Andover," was cashed. By the time classes at West Elementary School started this year, Mike Atwood had not heard anything was wrong.

Then, his daughter came home during the third week of September and told him other kids had brought their violins to school. Lessons had begun.

Atwood learned that Brianna was not placed in a class. The simple reason is there weren't enough teachers. He was upset, and still is. "If you can't staff the program, then you should tell everyone," said Atwood. "Don't have me rent the violin and then tell me I'm out."

What happened, according to an e-mail from the program organizer, Martha Giguere, is that Brianna's teacher left the program in August. Her students were supposed to be handled by other teachers, but some kids fell through the cracks. The sessions were filled. It's tough to find people willing to teach kids in through the current makeshift after-school program because instructors can make more by working on their own.

And since the teachers are not actually Andover employees, Giguere indicated there's nothing the school department can do.

"Our role is really to act as an intermediary between the families and the instructors," says

Marcia Adams O'Neil, assistant superintendent. "It was unfortunate because we want to have as many people as possible learning to play."

The after-school music program is facing these problems because Andover cut its school music budget a few years ago in response to financial troubles. Atwood still believes the town should have done more - such as keeping on top of the problems and reporting them to parents.

It took seven months for Atwood to get his \$35 returned to him from the town. Clearly, there are bugs in the stop-gap system.

"It's not about the \$35," says Atwood, who also will lose a \$65 deposit he paid to rent a violin. "It says in the application that she is guaranteed a spot."

Atwood says at this point it would be difficult to get a private instructor because once the school year is underway, the attractive after-school times for an 8-year-olds are booked already.

But he still hopes Andover can do more. Perhaps, with some help from knowledgeable musicians in town, it can.

"I would love to see Brianna get slotted into violin. I know it's late in the year," he said. "She loves to play violin. It aggravates me she can't play. The longer this goes on, the less chance I think there is she will play (any) instrument in the school."

School officials also say want to see improvements to the program.

"We're concerned about this too. We want to build a robust music program," said O'Neil. "We want students to be able to perform when they get to the upper elementary, middle school and high school."

But improvements this year won't happen, says O'Neil - barring the sudden appearance of talented teachers willing to take on students for the second half of the year.

The current Andover after-school music program is a safety net created to help support the town's music programs during budget cutbacks. It seems the net has bigger holes than anyone would like - parents, educators and certainly 8-year-olds like Brianna.

Can anyone out there help plug them?

Neil Fater is editor of the Andover Townsman.

Can you teach an instrument? Help out. Send an e-mail to [mgiguere@aps1.net](mailto:mgiguere@aps1.net)

### CABANA

#### Need to know more about how project changed

Editor, Townsman:

Careful reading of the newspaper reports about the ongoing saga of Ballardvale's cabana from h--- reveals an interesting near omission in the reports. Only once in the Andover Townsman and only once in the Eagle-Tribune, and then in the middle of long reports and only briefly was it reported (if I remember correctly) that the plans shown to Andover Conservation's James Greer were changed. The Townsman said they were changed twice following his reported advice that no conservation permits were required, and the Tribune said it changed once.

Greer has by implication been regularly hung out as villain with only these two very brief unelaborated asides that may explain his reported advice about the lack of need for conservation

permits. I knew and, over the years, had fairly regular contact with Greer, both for applications and in his capacity as a public official. He may have had other (and irrelevant) failings, but a lack of adherence to the dotted "i" was never one of them. I think the public needs better reporting about what really occurred during the permitting process for this building - as very likely both the Conservation Commission and the building department are examining.

If it turns out that the building is not in compliance, my vote would not be for removal (such a waste should be the last resort), but rather for another appropriate consequence. The owner, in addition to any needed corrective action, and if there does turn out to be a wetland issue, could:

- 1) be required to create elsewhere on his property and

donate to the town equivalent wetlands; or

2) move the structure to a place on his property where it would meet environmental and zoning requirements; or

3) (as was suggested to me by someone else) transfer what in many communities would be a full sized home, with swimming pool, to the Housing Partnership for use as "affordable housing."

Michael Frishman  
11 Crescent Drive #4  
(Editor's note: For a story on this very issue, see page 1.)

## THURSDAY FILE

Tact is the ability to describe others as they see themselves.  
ELEANOR CHAFFEE



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# Townspeople

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

### Tips and recipes for your holiday cocktail party

(more sage advice on how to throw a party and keep your wits about you)

**PART TWO OF TWO:** The first half of this article appeared last week in the Andover Townsman (page 17).

**Y**OU'VE PLANNED YOUR MENU, written a giant "to do" list and cleaned your house. Maybe you baked my gruyère puffs at 375 degrees, ate a few and froze the rest. Now you're ready to finish planning and hosting a party for any number of guests.

Here are some more tips – the second tray of Terry's top 10 tips – for throwing the perfect holiday cocktail party:

**TIP 6.** Murphy's Law of Cups and Napkins. Somehow party people lose their drinks, so plan on at least three beverage containers and napkins per person. Pull out your stemware and silverware for small, intimate fetes. They set a beautiful and elegant tone. For large groups you'll have to either rent dishes or buy paper and plastic (make sure you decide ahead of time and add your paperware to your "to do" list). If you have paper napkins or plastic cups left over, use them at your next party. I remember having piles of odd items and deciding to throw a "leftover paper party." Crazy, yes, but it did the job well.

**TIP 7.** Traffic flow is important. Plan where to place the hors d'oeuvres and drinks. Food stations scattered throughout the living areas of your home invite guests to move around and mingle with each other. Think about stocking each station with a selection of both food and drink.



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Terry Kay Bargar

**TIP 8.** Post-It Notes are the key to great organization. Each note should list one food or one serving piece; they should be placed ahead of time in the location where you want to serve the food. In other words, if your bowl of salsa will reside on the coffee table, put a yellow label marked "salsa" on that table. Put another note beside it marked "chips." When you put out the salsa, remove the note. Oops, the "chips" note is still there! Go get them! Post-It notes are fantastic visual cues for letting you know what is missing or left to do. Before I started writing out little yellow sticky notes, I'd forget to put out a bowl of sour cream or sugar for coffee. These notes will keep you on track.

**TIP 9.** Decide where you'll put the end up piling guests' outerwear on your bed or a guestroom bed. And inevitably there will be a snowstorm on the night of your party. Make sure you line the bed with large bath towels. They will absorb the melting snowflakes, keeping the bed dry and clean.

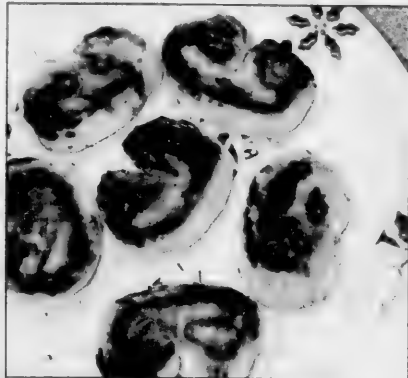
**TIP 10.** Have a beverage, perhaps a glass of wine, 20 minutes before your guests arrive. This action will force you to sit down and relax for a few minutes rather than nervously scurrying around doing last-minute chores. When the doorbell rings, you will feel calm and the party will be a hit.

My theme of puffed hors d'oeuvres can take many different forms. Today's palmiers can be either sweet (as in sugary elephant ears cookies) or savory. They look impressive, taste fabulous, and are equally successful for experienced and beginner cooks.

#### Roast Beef, Feta and Sweet Onion Palmiers

Makes 15-18 pieces

These savory palmiers are crispy on the outside and luxuriously satisfying on the inside. They are made with puff pastry, a buttery, delicious and almost magical dough that rises into minilayers as it bakes. If you have the time or inclination, then certainly make your own from scratch. I love the convenience of the frozen product, however, and highly recommend it. As with last week's cheese puffs, these palmiers can be made ahead and reheated.



- 1 sheet puff pastry dough, defrosted, let rest 30 minutes before unfolding
- one-third pound thinly sliced lean rare deli roast beef
- 2 ounces feta cheese, crumbled
- one-fourth cup caramelized onions, or 2 ounces sweet onion jam (may substitute red pepper jam, cranberry jam, etc.)

1. Let puff pastry dough stand at room temperature for 30 minutes. Unfold the dough onto a large board or countertop surface. Roll lightly, expanding the size of the dough to approximately 13x13 inches.
2. Place roast beef slices over the puff pastry dough, overlapping where necessary.
3. Spread the caramelized onions thinly over the beef. If using jam, then spread it thin, too.
4. Sprinkle the crumbled feta over the onions.
5. Carefully fold the two outer edges of the puff pastry in towards the center. Now take the outer folded sides and fold them again into the middle. Finally, fold in half lengthwise. The puff pastry should look like a long tube.
6. Chill the puff pastry for about 10 minutes. This will make cutting it a bit easier. With a sharp knife, cut into one-half inch or slightly larger slices and arrange on cookie sheet. Use a nonstick sheet. If

Continued on page 12

## Bearing down on kids' humor

Local author Jeff Nathan does it again with new book

By Judy Wakefield

**J**EFF NATHAN, ANDOVER author of humorous children's books, is so sure elementary-aged kids will like his take on learning poetry through humor that his performance is guaranteed. That means you don't have to pay for his show if you don't like it.

A statement on his Web site boldly says "...programs are guaranteed to be the best, most fun and most educational language arts assemblies your school has ever had or you don't have to pay."

He stands by that claim as his business is booming, with bookings galore, each costing between \$500 and \$900.

There's also a CD version of his book readings in the works, and a division of Simon and Schuster is using one of his funny stories in a children's book that is coming out next year.

Finally, his newest book, *There's a Bear in My Shoe*, just came out. It's his third book and not surprisingly, it's almost sure to get any third- or fourth-grader laughing at every page.

"Whew," is all one can say when Nathan is asked, "what's new?" It's been five years since his first funny book, *There's a Hippo in My Locker*, came out.

The standard book tour followed, but Nathan said he was missing something. Some reviews from educators at his readings were lukewarm.

So, he has been tweaking and fine-tuning his gig and it is paying off, he said.

"I'm having more fun and this has blossomed," said the married father of four who left a job in the high-tech industry about two years ago to devote himself to the business of making kids laugh while reading poetry.

Nathan's *Hippo* book used behind-the-scenes observations he made auditions as two of his kids were involved with Merrimack Junior Theatre.

While waiting, he penned ideas and wrote rhyming poetry to make young kids laugh. One example is *A Geographic Meal*, which starts like this:

I'm Hungary right before my meal,

And boy, this hunger sure Israel,

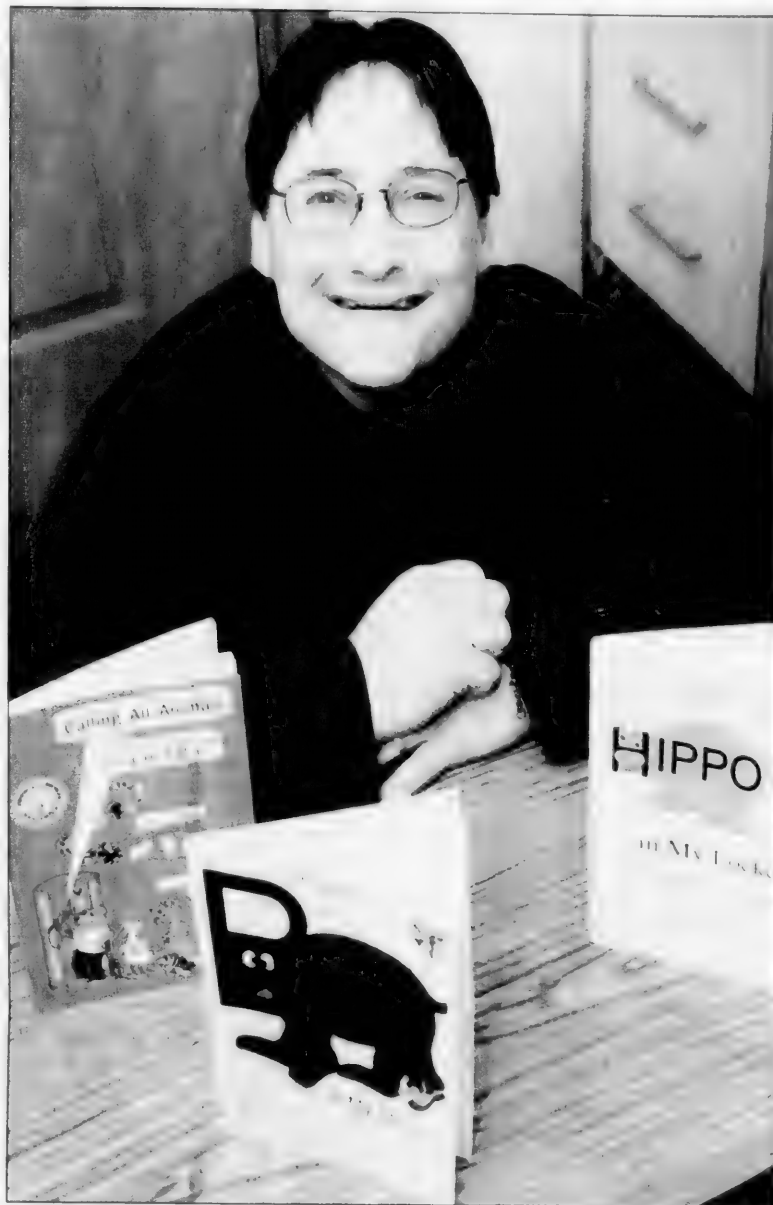
So, time now to get China for the table.

A Cuba sugar in my tea,

Turkey's the first food for me,

And, then it's time for Chile, if I'm able.

The key to Nathan's style is getting kids to laugh while they



▲ Author Jeff Nathan is known for his funny take on poems. The Andover writer just published his third book for kids. He is pictured here with copies of all his books.

pick out the eight countries mentioned, he said.

"Kids learn about similes and metaphors with my writing and they like to laugh when

they do," said Nathan, who now packs a guitar and lots of high tech equipment when he visits schools.

"Well-oiled" is how he responded when asked to compare today's performances to his early performances in Andover schools. He is clearly more comfortable and a firm believer that humor is a must-have in school curriculums.

He sings many songs that are actually rewritten popular songs. *On Top of Old Smokey* has been changed to *On Top of My Doggie*, and starts like this:

On top of my doggie,  
I sat in her fur.  
And we were both happy  
Except maybe her

Parents are enjoying his poetry singing style as Nathan has tapped into that genre. He

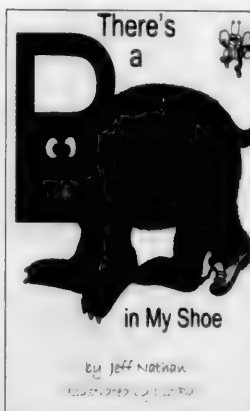
performs family shows at night and the response has been great, he said. He's just back from performing in Connecticut and Long Island.

"I'm not much of a singer, but I love to play guitar and sing these songs. It's so much fun," Nathan said, adding he does not have one regret about giving up a high-tech career to create rhyming educational jingles that make kids laugh.

"I now have that happy medium – kids love it and so do the teachers. Response has been great," he said.

Andover Bookstore is stocking *There's a Bear in My Shoe*, which came out Dec. 1. It costs \$9.95.

To get more information on bookings, check out [www.incredibleassemblies.com](http://www.incredibleassemblies.com).



## A PEACEFUL EXCHANGE



**YMCA children prepared "Peace Packages" to share with Japan's Tokyo YMCA International School. Younger children put together kits to make friendship bracelets of multi-colored beads. Third-graders made holiday cards to be mailed to Japan with the kits. Children in fourth and fifth grades released balloons with holiday messages. Preparing to launch the balloons are, from left: Amanda Brochu (YMCA after-school program director), Jenna Royal, Olivia Szendey, Nathaniel Manser (peeking through), Jesse Matison (peeking through), Kevin Dou and Evan Singleton.**



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## FOR SENIORS

By Pat Becker

Andover Senior Center

Here are some of the activities coming up at the Andover Senior Center. Call the senior center at 978-623-8321 for further information about any classes, programs or services.

**Creative Cooking/Lunch Group:** The creative cooking/lunch group will hold its holiday gathering Wednesday, Dec. 21 at 11 a.m. The menu will be "Italian Christmas Specialties." Reservations (\$6), which are necessary, must be made by this Friday.

**Exercise Classes:** The winter semester of exercise class is just getting underway. Classes are being offered in Tai Chi, women's strength training, low-impact aerobics, modified beginner and intermediate yoga, men's exercise, beginner and intermediate tap dancing, cardio circuit training, easy exercise and water workout. Drop by the center for more specific information on days, times and cost. The winter semester will run through Feb. 24.

**Movie Matinee:** Our next movie matinee will take place Monday, Dec. 19 at 1 p.m., when we will show the video *Surviving Christmas*. This holiday comedy stars Ben Affleck as a man who returns to his childhood home to recall the family holidays of his youth. Reservations are not necessary; just drop in and join us.

**Massage Therapy:** A licensed massage therapist is on-site at the center Monday mornings by appointment, offering seated, upper-body massages. Cost is just \$12 for a 20-minute appointment. Call the center if you would like to try out this great stress reliever.

**Cardio Circuit Training For Women:** Geared for most fitness levels, this workout is based on the use of 10 different machines. Cost is \$45 for unlimited use and no membership fee is required. This special offer is through the senior center only, and complimentary passes are available at the center for anyone who would like to try out this opportunity.

**Bridge Group:** Our Thursday afternoon bridge group welcomes newcomers to join them at any time. The game begins at 1 p.m. Reservations are not necessary; just come down and join in.

**Fix-It Shop:** The fix-it volunteers will be back at the center again on Monday, Dec. 19 at

1:30 p.m. They will be happy to take a look at any small item or appliance in need of repair. Your cost is \$2 plus any necessary parts.

**Christmas Continental Breakfast:** Plan to come Thursday, Dec. 22 for a Christmas continental breakfast. Come alone or with a friend and enjoy some breakfast goodies and lots of holiday cheer. Be our guest and pick up a complimentary ticket at the front desk.

**Amesbury Playhouse Scottish Celebration:** We are now accepting reservations for the Jan. 22 trip to the Amesbury Playhouse. Enjoy a great afternoon of entertainment featuring bagpipes, sword dancers, fiddlers, etc. For dinner we'll enjoy a choice of steak, seafood or chicken, in addition to traditional Scottish fare. Cost is \$45, which includes dinner, entertainment and bus transportation from the center.

**Beginner's Computer Class:** If your new year's resolution is to learn to use the computer, then sign up for our beginner's class, which will be held at 2 p.m. on Tuesdays, Jan. 10, 17, 24 and 31. This course is for the beginner with little or no knowledge about computers, who needs to learn the basics. Cost is \$30; spaces are limited.

**Book Club:** Our afternoon book club will resume Thursday, Jan. 5 at 1 p.m. Discussion will be on *The Amateur Marriage* by Ann Tyler. Copies of the book are available at the center approximately two weeks prior to each discussion. Newcomers are welcome to this group at any time.

**Calligraphy Workshop:** There are two sessions, Wednesday, Jan. 18 and 25 at 2 p.m. Surprise your family and friends by learning how to address your envelopes, invitations, announcements and special gifts in a beautiful script. Bring a small poem or saying to "letter" to the second class. Pre-registration is necessary.

**Journal Writing For Healing:** This six-week class will focus on writing to relieve stress or come to terms with a life event. It will be held at Dragonfly: Art With Wings in North Andover. The cost is \$10 per class, but those registering through the senior center will receive a 50 percent discount. Class begins Wednesday, Jan. 11 at 1 p.m. Pre-registration is necessary.

**Hearty But Healthy Win-**

**ter Cooking:** Instructor Terry Bargar, FOOD FOR THOUGHT columnist for the *Andover Townsman*, will be here for a four-week course on Tuesday, Jan. 10, 17, 24 and 31 at 2 p.m. Bargar will cook and share recipes for her French onion soup, classic roasted chicken, Creme Brulee French Toast, and her Holy Molé chicken chili. Of course, everyone gets to sample. Cost is \$20, and pre-registration is necessary.

**Chinese New Year Celebration:** Tickets are now available for our Chinese New Year celebration, which will take place Monday, Jan. 30 from 4 to 6 p.m. Cost is \$5, which includes entertainment and dinner. Come help us usher in the Year of the Dog.

**Men's Breakfast:** Our next

men's get-together will take place Friday, Jan. 20 at 8:30 a.m. *The British Soldier in the American Revolution* will be this month's program. Guy Morin will appear as a fully uniformed and equipped soldier of King George III and will discuss the clothing, equipment, weapons and tactics of the period. There will also be the opportunity to view many of the items carried and used by soldiers in the 18th century. Cost is \$3 and reservations may be made by calling the center.


**Outdoor Adventures For Women:** Anyone who is not currently on the mailing list, but would like to be notified about cross-country skiing or winter hiking may call the center and leave their contact information with Pat.

## HELPING HANDS



COURTESY PHOTO

Fourth- and fifth-grade girls from Andover's Girl Scout Troop 538 made holiday crafts this season, selling them at Brickstone Square for the past two weekends. They are raising money for the YMCA's "Reach Out for Youth" program and for the Girl Scouts. They sold homemade "People Chow," a trail mix snack, and ribbon belts. In the front row, from left, are Abby Owen, Leah Reppucci and Aislinn Mulligan. Back row: Girl Scout adviser Claire Reppucci, Carla McDonough, Kate Froburg, and adviser Rhonda McDonald. They all live in Andover.



COURTESY PHOTO

Cris Tavares of Andover and her daughter, Lillian, had their hair cut together and donated it to Locks of Love. Cris cut her hair twice for these donations - once in 2002 and again this year. When she told Lily that she had cut her hair to give to girls who didn't have hair because they were sick, the first-grader at Sanborn School wanted to do it too. "Lily was very happy to think that she could make a little girl who had lost her hair feel pretty again," said her mom. Lily has two brothers, David (third grade) and Dennis (preschool).

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

### ■ ROAST BEEF, FETA AND SWEET ONION PALMIERS

*Continued from page 11*

you don't have one, either use a Silpat liner or generously butter your regular cookie sheet.

7. Bake at 400 degrees for 12-14 minutes, until nicely browned. Carefully flip each palmier, return to the oven, and cook for another 2-4 minutes until browned on the other side. Remove from oven. Let cool slightly, then arrange on a serving platter.

For variety, use smoked turkey and pesto, or gorgonzola crumbles with pear jam and chopped walnuts.

**REMEMBER:** Stay focused, stay festive, and most of all, have fun with your guests. Happy Holidays!

**NOTE TO READERS:** Last week's gruyère puffs recipe did not include the information that the puffs should be baked at 375 degrees.

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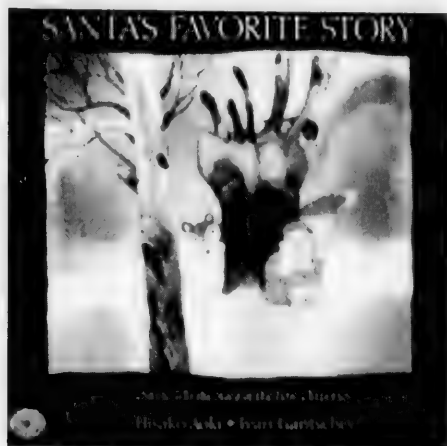
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# Education

## BOOK REVIEW



### Santa's Favorite Story

BY HISAKO AOKI;

ILLUSTRATED BY IVAN GANTSCHEV

Reviewed by John Chartier and James Caron

In the second of John and James' four holiday reviews, they look at a Christmas story – "your basic Christmas story" – that seems like a forced attempt, without much imagination, to balance the religious and worldly views of the holiday.

**S**ANTA'S FAVORITE STORY is an entertaining tale about both the secular and religious aspects of Christmas. The story begins in the forest with a group of your typical Christmas story characters: furry animals.

In their dealings with Santa, they discover that he is not feeling well and might not be able to deliver presents by himself. The animals ask if Christmas can still go on if Santa is not well. Santa explains that Christmas isn't about Santa, it is about the birth of Jesus. Santa goes on to give the biblical Christmas story. The animals all decide to help Santa as best they can to make sure Santa gets out all his presents on time, after which they celebrate their success together in the end.

This picture book quickly and concisely explains both aspects of the Christmas story. However, the biblical and secular stories are not seamlessly connected and the story of Jesus seems somewhat forced.

It is, nonetheless, an interesting and educational synopsis. We recommend this book for very young readers and their parents. The illustrations are very stylistic. Ivan Gantschev does an excellent job reflecting the scenes from the text in his pictures.

We give this book a 7 out of 10. It is a great introduction to the Christmas story; however, most are already quite familiar with this story and most likely will not learn anything from it.

Simply stated, it is your basic Christmas story, with very little in the way of creativity.

Nevertheless, the same old traditional Christmas story is one that we all can stand to hear again this time of year, and that is why we gave this big as good a rating as it got.

So head down to your bookstore and pick up a copy of *Santa's Favorite Story* today.

## ON CAMPUS

Andover resident **James Byrne**, professor of criminal justice at the University of Massachusetts Lowell, was recently invited to be the keynote speaker at the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Division of Juvenile Justice Transfer of Knowledge workshop.



James Byrne

Held at the Kellogg West Conference Center at California State Polytechnic University, the three-day workshop was designed to provide participants with an opportunity to work together. They worked to develop recommendations to create policies and procedures that will enhance the delivery of juvenile parole services.

Byrne presented his current research-to-practice training tool, Tools of the Trade, which represents current research and literature in the area of "what works"

*Continued on page 14*

## After Katrina, it's been a flurry of activity for students brought here

Most of the 21 students who came after the hurricane to finish out the school year

By Rita Savard

**T**HEY ARE STILL IN HIGH SCHOOL, but cousins Roger and Marcus Pierre have seen more changes in the past three months than many adults do in a lifetime. Last week, the two New Orleans natives added another new experience – snow.

"I've never seen anything like this before," laughed 18-year-old Marcus, before throwing a snowball at his unsuspecting cousin, Roger, 15. "I think it's great."

During the three months since Hurricane Katrina's floodwaters washed them out of their comfort zones and away from family and friends, the Pierres have leaned on each other for support while adjusting to Andover.

On Sunday, the cousins, who are now more like brothers, had to say goodbye.

Boarding a plane out of Boston bound for Vian, Okla., Roger was getting set to see his mother, Dierdre, and 2-year-old sister, Stephanie, for the first time since the floodwaters destroyed much of New Orleans.

They were separated during the citywide evacuation, when broken levees put the bowl-shaped city under 20 feet of water in early September.

Roger's younger sister was missing for nearly four weeks before she was identified by Red Cross workers and reunited with her mother in Louisiana.

"I can't wait to see them," said Roger. "But I'm also disappointed to go. I like



Top and bottom photos: Roger Pierre, 15, and his cousin, Marcus, 19, enjoyed throwing snowballs last Friday at Staybridge Suites on Technology Drive. Hurricane Katrina's floodwaters had forced them to relocate.

Andover and I like the snow."

Knee-deep in snow on Friday, Roger and Marcus reveled in seeing the landscape blanketed in about 19 inches of the white powder. Before this winter, the only time either of them had seen snow was last year, at home in New Orleans, when a rare snowfall left a dusting over the area on Christmas Day.

Saying that he'll miss the snow the most, Roger is already planning on visiting his cousin over the summer.

"Yeah, I'm going to miss him," added Marcus. "But I'm just going to put all my time and concentration on school and getting a good job after graduation."

As Roger begins a new life with his family this week in Oklahoma, Marcus and his mother, Stephanie Pierre, prepare to begin their second chapter here in Andover.

Since coming to town in September, the Pierres have made a temporary home at the Staybridge Suites on Technology Drive, where Stephanie Pierre was hired to work in the hotel's housekeeping department. But

*Continued on page 14*

### OF THE KATRINA STUDENTS HERE: 18 at Phillips, all staying 1 at the Tech School, staying 2 at Andover High, departed

**M**ANY OF THE 21 HIGH SCHOOL students sent to Andover following Hurricane Katrina will complete the year at schools in town.

While the two students who attended Andover High School this fall have moved on, one student at the Greater Lawrence Technical School and 18 at Phillips Academy will stay until the spring semester is over.

Roger Pierre, one of two cousins from New Orleans who had been living in Andover, left town on Sunday to reunite with his mother and sister, who have relocated to Oklahoma. Andover High's other student from New Orleans, 15-year-old Teddy Mace, returned home to that area the day before Thanksgiving.

Phillips Academy currently has 18 students who just completed their first semester of high school up north. All will return to classes after the Christmas break to finish out the school year, said Stephen Porter, spokesman for Phillips.

As for Marcus Pierre, Roger's cousin who attends the Greater Lawrence Technical School, the high school senior is remaining optimistic about the future.

"I get homesick some days but I don't show it," he says. "There's a lot more opportunities here for jobs and school."

Striving to fulfill his dream of becoming a chef, Marcus Pierre has tackled the GLTS's culinary arts program. Brushing up on a northern cold-weather tradition, he just learned how to make New England clam chowder.

"I couldn't tell you if it was good or not," admits Marcus. "It had mushrooms in it and I'm allergic to mushrooms, so I couldn't taste it."

– Rita Savard



Marcus Pierre (left), who turns 19 today, and his cousin, Roger, 15, have been lodging temporarily at Staybridge Suites on Technology Drive. Roger attended Andover High, but left town on Sunday to join his mother and sister, who have relocated to Oklahoma. Marcus attends the Greater Lawrence Technical School, learning to become a chef.

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## MEETING OF THE MINDS



Many well-known Andover civic figures gathered Friday, Dec. 2 to pay tribute to Fred Fitzgerald (at right), founder of the Andover Fund for Education. Former superintendent Ken Seifert (left) heartily thanked Fitzgerald for his vision and work on behalf of students. At the event, state Sen. Sue Tucker presented Fitzgerald with an Official Citation from the Massachusetts Senate for his commitment to excellence in the public schools and his dedicated support of the youth of Andover.

## LOCAL SCHOLARS

Austin Preparatory School seniors Patrick Burke, Caitrin Coffey and Jaclyn Todisco, all of Andover, were honored this fall by the National Merit Program in recognition of their outstanding academic promise. They qualified for this award after receiving high scores on the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).

Coffey was named a semifinalist in the National Merit Program. She is one of only 16,000 students nationwide to receive this honor. She is now in the running for one of 8,200 National Merit Scholarship awards given to students who show great potential for future academic success. Coffey takes on a demanding course load at Austin, including Advanced Placement classes in calculus, physics, psychology and economics. Math and science courses are among her favorites. A member of the National Honor Society, Coffey also takes part in a number of student activities, including volleyball, tennis, student council, the Stand and Deliver Mentor Program, and



Caitrin Coffey



Patrick Burke



Jaclyn Todisco

the French Club. She has participated in dance for 13 years. She plans to attend college next year, studying biomedical engineering or health sciences.

Both Burke and Todisco were named Commended Students by the National Merit Program.

Burke's academic record at Austin includes numerous Advanced Placement and honors courses, including Advanced Placement Biology and Advanced Placement Physics. He also participates in many of the school's athletic programs, including four years on the football team and involvement in track and the ski club. He plans to attend college after graduation, majoring in engineering.

Todisco pursues a variety of interests both in and out of the classroom. Her current course load at Austin includes

Advanced Placement courses in biology, calculus and psychology. Her favorite subject is biology, and she hopes to pursue future study in this field after graduation. Additionally, Todisco participates in the National Honor Society, Peer Leaders, the Human Rights Squad and the soccer team. Todisco is a former intern at the Andover Townsman.

## Post-Katrina

■ TRANSPLANTED HERE  
Continued from page 13

time began running out for the Pierres this month, as the Dec. 15 deadline for the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Hotel Program was drawing closer. Hurricane evacuees temporarily being put up in hotels were given until today to find longer-term housing. In the 10 states with the highest concentration of evacuees, including Alabama, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nevada, Tennessee and Texas, FEMA extended the Hotel Program deadline until Jan. 7, providing that state relief workers assisting the hurricane victims can submit a detailed plan as to how they will help move people out of the hotels and into other housing by the extended deadline date.

According to statistics from the US Department of Homeland Security, approximately 50,000 families are still living in hotel rooms under the FEMA program.

"I've been searching for an apartment for weeks," Pierre told the Townsman last Thursday. "Everything is different for us here: the weather, the culture, the food. I do miss the city (New Orleans) but I can't go back right now. I'm looking to stay in the Andover area because I don't want to stray too far from Marcus's school. He's already settled in and likes it there a lot."

Marcus Pierre is learning to be a chef at the Greater Lawrence Technical School.

As whiteout conditions brought traffic to a standstill for several hours last Friday, Stephanie Pierre layered her winter clothes and continued her search for an apartment. Good news came in the form of a phone call later in the day, informing the single mother that she would be able to move into a new Andover address today, Thursday.

Marcus also celebrates his 19th birthday today.

"This is a blessing," said Stephanie Pierre. "We'll be celebrating Christmas in our own home. We've been very fortunate."

## ON CAMPUS

■ JAMES BYRNE

Continued from page 13

in community supervision for facilitating offender change.

Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine held its annual Sarah and James Bowdoin Day ceremony Friday, Oct. 28, to honor those undergraduates who distinguish themselves by excellence in scholarship.

Rachel Rapp, a member of the class of 2008, is a Sarah and James Bowdoin Scholar from Andover.

Those students who are designated Sarah and James Bowdoin Scholars are in the top (highest GPA) 20 percent of each class for the previous academic year.

Matthew Keough, a resident of Andover and a member of the class of 2006 at Providence College in Providence, R.I., has been named to the 2006 edition of *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges*.

Keough, who is majoring in history, is among nearly 40 Providence College students

named to the annual listing, which recognizes campus leaders nationwide.

Campus nominating committees and editors of the annual directory selected students based on their academic achievement, service to the community, leadership in extracurricular activities and potential for continued success. The undergraduates join a group of students selected from more than 2,000 institutions of higher learning in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and several foreign nations.

David Kaplan, a junior at Connecticut College in New London, Conn., is a volunteer as a coordinator for the ABC Mentor program. Kaplan volunteers through the Office of Volunteers for Community Service at Connecticut College.

OVCS plays a role in teaching students about community engagement and the best practices of participation.

Kaplan, a 2003 graduate of Andover High School, is the son of Leslie and Alan Kaplan of Andover.

## SCHOOL LUNCH MENUS

Here's what's for lunch in the Andover public schools next week, Dec. 19-23:

## Elementary schools

**Monday:** Baked mozzarella sticks and fries, spaghetti and meatballs with garlic bread, fresh baked pizza slice, chicken caesar salad, apple-sauce cake, milk, fruit and veggie.

**Tuesday:** Barbecue chicken with mashed potatoes and corn, baked chicken nuggets, pizza stick with corn, bagel and string, oatmeal raisin cookie, lucky tray, milk, fruit and veggie.

**Wednesday:** Boneless pork chop with mashed potatoes and carrots, chicken McSchool, fresh baked pizza slice, chicken teriyaki wrap, milk, fruit and veggie.

**Thursday:** Chicken pot pie with mashed potatoes, french toast sticks with sausages, hot dog with oven baked fries, d'animals day, milk, fruit and veggie.

**Friday:** Chef's choice, baked chicken nuggets with mashed potatoes, fresh baked pizza slice, boxed breakfast, milk, fruit and veggie.

## Middle schools

**Monday:** Garden salad with pita bread, cheddar cheese and soup, breakfast sandwich with potato pancakes, stuffed crust pizza, pudding, fruit, milk and veggie.

**Tuesday:** Chicken fajitas with rice and salsa, chicken mcschool, spaghetti and meatballs, fruit, veggie and milk.

**Wednesday:** Roast pork with potatoes and

gravy, two hot dogs with chips, stuffed crust pizza, fruit, veggie and milk.

**Thursday:** Two toasted cheese sandwiches with fries, chocolate chip pancakes with sausage, chicken, broccoli and pasta, fruit, veggie and milk.

**Friday:** Chef's choice, chicken caesar salad with whole grain roll, stuffed crust pizza, lucky tray, fruit, veggie and milk.

## Andover High School

**Monday:** Baked meatloaf with potato and green beans, stuffed crust pizza, baked macaroni and cheese, fruit, veggie and milk.

**Tuesday:** French toast sticks with sausages, stuffed crust pizza, spaghetti and meatballs, fruit, veggie and milk.

**Wednesday:** Roast pork with potato and peas, stuffed crust pizza, chicken parm sub, fruit, veggie and milk.

**Thursday:** Two toasted cheese sandwiches with fries, stuffed crust pizza, chicken, broccoli and pasta, fruit, veggie and milk.

**Friday:** Chef's choice, stuffed crust pizza, chicken cacciatore, fruit, veggie and milk.

Premium lunch choices are served daily at the middle schools and Andover High. AHS also offers a Courtyard Barbecue featuring grilled food: the Collins Center Café; Pastabilities; and a Market Basket cart with other food choices daily.

For prices or other information about lunches, call Karen Pappa, food services director, at 978-623-8622.

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# Sports

## AHS PREVIEWS

# Stepping it up

Teams getting ready for the winter season

By Rick Harrison

This week the Townsman continues in-depth previews of Andover High varsity sports teams for the 2005-06 winter season with looks at girls track and boys track, boys ice hockey, girls ice hockey, and boys swim & dive.

## GIRLS & BOYS TRACK

How do you keep 270 teenagers busy for two hours, five afternoons a week?

That's the pleasant dilemma faced by head Andover High indoor track coach Peter Comeau and his staff, whose teams attracted 126 girls and 144 boys for the 2005-06 season.

Their campaign kicked off yesterday (Wednesday), after Townsman presstime, with dual meets at the AHS Field House against Merrimack Valley Conference rival Billerica.

Many athletes more talented in other sports use indoor track as a way to stay in shape for the spring, but with such prolific numbers, it stands to reason, both Andover teams will be contenders.

The boys, in fact, finished 7-0 last winter and are defending their MVC 1 championship.

The girls were 4-3 last year, with close losses to Central Catholic and Chelmsford, and hope to improve upon that mark.

"The boys team can compete with anyone," said former AHS track standout Comeau, who begins his eighth year with the indoor program and third as head coach.

"The girls don't have as much depth or balance — although there are several outstanding individual athletes. We lost five top-notch girls through graduation and it will be very tough to replace them."

"Realistically we're looking at middle of the pack — although there is always the hope we could surprise and challenge (for the title)."

The locals are back in action next Wednesday at home (3:30 p.m.) with dual meets against Lowell teams that both lost their opener to Haverhill this past Tuesday.

The Lowell girls dropped a 50-36 decision and the Lowell boys were drilled, 60-26.

Returning as AHS assistant coaches are former head man Art Iworsley (sprinters), Craig Hartwell (sprinters), new mom Brenda Clark-Warne (distances), Phil Capodilupo (high jumpers), soon-to-be AHS Hall of Fame inductee Dick Collins (shot putters) and John Rex (strength and conditioning).

Elementary school physical education teacher Iworsley stepped aside as head coach three years ago because of a change in work assignments and health issues (which have since improved).

"I'm holding down the fort for Arthur until — or if — he wants to return as head coach," said Comeau.

## Andover boys

After plowing through last

year's conference season unbeaten, highlighted by a thrilling 44-42 late-season win over Lowell, the Golden Warriors went on to place third in the MIAA Division 1/Class A Meet and fifth in the All-State Meet at the Reggie Lewis Center in Roxbury.

"The class numbers are well-distributed this year with 35 freshman, 42 sophomores, 38 juniors and 29 seniors," said Comeau.

"There are no major holes in the lineup. We're pretty well covered in all 10 events (50 hurdles, 50 dash, 300, 600, 1000, mile, 2-mile, high jump, shot put, 4x400 relay)."

"We're especially strong in the sprints (50 and 300 dashes) and the 600 — at least two deep in each — and we're also solid in the high jump, shot put and relay," said Comeau.

"Even though the boys cross country team struggled a little — we'll also be fine in the distance races (1000, mile, 2-mile)."

"With our depth we shouldn't get swept or beaten up in any event."

Top graduates from the boys team were distance runner James Primes (now attending Boston College), throwers Kyle McKenzie (Coast Guard Academy) and Mike Gustin (St. Anselm) who are both playing collegiate football, versatile multi-event standout Chris Cole (Gettysburg) and sprinter Andy Boudreau.

Top senior returners include the six captains — Mike Baldwin (600), Adam Cuomo (hurdles/relay), John Kim (shot put), Ben Ossoff (600), Pierre Hage (50/300/relay) and Jason Sheldon (50/300/relay) — along with Jeff Belardo (50), Eric Donahue (50), Peter Brown (2-mile), David York (shot put) and Buddy Farnham (hurdles).

Farnham is still dealing with back, knee and ankle injuries suffered during the football season, as well as sorting out numerous college football and lacrosse scholarship offers.

Cuomo, Hage and Sheldon joined the departed Cole on Andover's indoor 4x200 and 4x400 relays.

The 4x200 finished runner-up to Lawrence in the Class A and All-State Meets by a split-second, while the 4x400 was second to Foxboro in the Class Meet and third at the All-State.

Leading junior returners are decathlete Nate Baker (50/300/high jump), J.B. Israel (shot put), Tom Jackson (hurdles), Randy Labreque (hurdles), Matt McMahon (hurdles), Greg Moore (hurdles), Frank Perrone (distances), Peter Shaw (distances), Andrew Wheelwright (high jump) and Kevin Twomey (50/300).

Baker has the potential to score in two events every meet, while Shaw is coming off a strong cross country season as the Golden Warriors' top harrier.

The sophomore group is paced by P.J. Farnham (50/300), Kyle Conlon (shot put), Santi Costello (50/300/high jump), Mike Mullen (50/300), Mike Murray (600/1000) and Jackson Korba (600).

The freshman class has some promising newcomers — but it's too early for the coaches to single out any of the ninth-graders.

"We've only had a couple weeks of practice and one practice meet with Masconomet," said Comeau, prior to the Billerica opener. "There is a slew of kids to pick from, but no one has really jumped out yet."

Comeau points to Central Catholic, Chelmsford and Haverhill as top challengers to the reigning MVC boys champs.

## Andover girls

The class breakdown for the girls shows 38 freshmen, 43 sophomores, 29 juniors and 16 seniors.

The low senior turnout is a common malady at most schools in most winter and spring sports.

"By the time they're seniors — unless they're really good and going to impact the team — they don't come out," explained Comeau.

Some prime talent is gone after the graduation of consistent 1-2 finishers Emily Korba (attending the University of Miami), Michelle Pirro (UNH), Jenny Dlesk (University of Illinois), Felicia Thompson (Howard University) and Meghan Keefe (UMass Amherst).

Korba developed into an excellent middle distance runner, blossoming last year. Pirro was a distance runner, Dlesk a top sprinter, Thompson a shot putter and Keefe a hurdler/high jumper/sprinter.

Pirro is running indoor track at New Hampshire.

"We lost a lot of points through graduation," confirmed Comeau. "But our girls should be strong in the sprints and hurdles."

"It's going to be tough to sweep events this year. The talent in the sophomore class is encouraging and overall we have a lot of bodies — but we're thin in terms of potential top-three finishers."

"You never know, though," added Comeau. "Last spring the girls team was a surprise. We would not have predicted what they accomplished in the Division 1/Class A and All-State Meets."

Heading the list of returners are senior twin sisters and Capt. Britany Pierce (50 hurdles/relay) and Caroline Pierce (50 dash/relay), along with junior 600/300 runner Rachel Fox.

Britany and Caroline scored at the Class and State Meets in their



Running in place and on stairs during indoor track practice at Andover High School is getting the young athletes ready for their first meet yesterday, Wednesday, after presstime.

individual events — and with the 4x200 relay, while Fox was the Class A 600 champ, placed top 6 at the All-State Meet and qualified for the New England's (she plays lacrosse in the spring).

Caroline Pierce is currently sidelined, however, with a back injury (vertebrae) that threatens to keep her out until at least Jan. 1.

"It's kind of a mystery injury," said Comeau. "Caroline isn't sure how it happened." It could be growth-related.

Other leading seniors are Capt. Sarah Thompson (shot put), Amy Boxell (600), Kerry Hill (high jump) and Christy Nigh (distances).

Top juniors joining Fox are Christina Conley (600/1000), Tamar Brady (hurdles), Chrissy Peracchi (50), Laura Wareham (50/300) and Kelly McGowan (600).

Emerging from the strong sophomore contingent are Emily Barker (50/300), Mary Burke (mile/2-mile), Mallory Kayon (hurdles), Bizzy DiTroia (50/300), Jessica Forster (hurdles/high jump), Caroline Gaffney (50/300), newcomer Casey Harrison (mile/2-mile), Erica Leber (600/1000), Sarah York (high jump) and Kayley Pettonito (50/300).

Harrison, who is also an excellent skier but opted for track this winter, and Burke helped the AHS cross country team to one of its best seasons in years.

Barker is coming off a leg injury similar to shin splints.

Freshmen who have impressed in the early going are sprinters Melissa Knapp (50/300) and Jenn Johnson (50/300).

Central Catholic (1-0), Haverhill (1-0), Chelmsford and Lowell (0-1) should all be strong in the highly-regarded conference.

## GIRLS ICE HOCKEY

Two wins short of a State Division 2 championship each of the last two years, the Andover High girls varsity ice hockey team hopes to take those extra steps this winter.

The Lady Warriors return virtually intact — with one big exception — as Jacqui Munro graduated and is now attending Columbia University, where she played field hockey this past fall.

"We will definitely miss Jacqui's leadership," said fifth-year head coach Bill McCarthy. "She had a maturity and was a calming influence. We're looking for a player or two to step up and take over that role."

Kim Chandler and Liz Sambuco were the only other seniors — so experience and depth are high up on this Lady Warrior team's list of strengths.

"We're cautiously optimistic

heading into the season," said McCarthy, whose first four AHS teams have gone 5th-17th.

"We did struggle a bit in the pre-season — but it's still early and until you start playing for real it's hard to evaluate how strong the team is."

"We have remained pretty much the same as last year — but just about every other team around us has improved."

There were 21 original candidates and 19 were retained to make up the current 2005-06 roster.

## Nasta a gem

There are six seniors led by first-line center, all-time AHS girls hockey scoring leader and Capt. Maria Nasta.

She is joined by Capt. Liz Roda and Assistant Capt. Ally Brown on defense, along with other forwards Amy Marlow, Kristen Costagholia and Sam Weinberg.

Nasta was among the state scoring leaders last winter with 43 goals and 22 assists for 65 points. She also produced six hat tricks.

Her three-year totals read an eye-popping 93 goals and 52 assists for 145 career points.

The 43 goals and 65 points last season were also AHS single season records.

Weinberg, who had 4-8-12 points as a sophomore, returns after sitting out last year.

Continued on page 16

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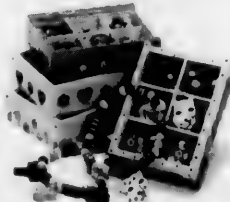
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## AHS PREVIEWS

## GIRLS ICE HOCKEY

Continued from page 15

Roda is currently sidelined with a groin injury that has lingered for four weeks and kept her off the ice. She will be out indefinitely and her continued absence would be a key blow at the blue line.

Junior players are forward and Capt. Becky Cairns, another prolific scorer, forward Alison Burns, forward Samantha Monson, defender Becky Johnson and goaltender Christina Cahill.

Cairns registered 58 points last winter, on 19 goals and a school single-season record 39 assists, and her two-year totals are 34 goals and 62 assists for 96 points.

Burns also had a solid sophomore campaign with 15 goals and 20 assists.

Netminder Cahill posted three solo shutouts and shared two others last season, and two years ago had three solos and one combined whitewash.

Andover does not have a sophomore on the roster.

Completing the squad are eight freshmen who played for AHS as eighth graders last season – after school officials got a special waiver that allowed middle schoolers to play.

If not for the granting of the waiver – Andover might not have been able to put a team on the ice.

The frosh contingent includes blueliners Tricia Martin, Danielle Paonessa and Sarah Ostrofsky, along with forwards Heather Paonessa, Jeanette Dousette, newcomer Katie Shields and goalies Rachel Bergan and Megan Pettoruto.

Heather Paonessa finished last season with four goals and eight assists, while Bergan combined with Cahill on two shutouts.

## Solid in net

"We're very strong in net," said McCarthy. "Cahill is a proven talent. Pettoruto is technically sound and Bergan has improved 210 percent from last year."

"We've been able to establish a checking line – with Heather Paonessa, Shields, Munson and Weinberg switching off. That's huge because it allows us to skate Nasta, Cairns and Burns together on the first line," said McCarthy. "That checking line could be our saving grace."

Andover finished 20-3 overall last year, winning the North Metro League title and beating Norwood (6-0) and Barnstable (3-2) in the State Division 2 tourney before being nipped by St. Mary's of Lynn 4-3 in the semifinals.

Two years ago the locals were 14-5-4, blasting Marblehead 10-2 and nudging Wilmington 4-2 in the tourney prior to a 4-3 overtime loss to Wellesley in the state semis.

The non-league schedule has been upgraded this year to include the likes of Wellesley, Needham, Austin Prep, Marblehead, Everett, Arlington, Waltham and Algonquin Regional of Northboro.

The scrimmage schedule was also tough with the opposition provided by Arlington Catholic, St. Mary's-Lynn and Phillips Academy.



Jeff Belardo leaps over hurdles during indoor track practice last week at Andover High.

"We stayed with Phillips for a couple of periods – trailing only 2-1 after one – and even though the final was 9-2 it was the best 9-2 pounding I've ever been involved with," said McCarthy.

"The terrific non-league schedule – which includes a few Division 1 teams – is probably going to translate into a few more regular season L's (losses) but it's also going to toughen us up and better prepare us for the tournament."

Next year McCarthy will probably apply for another waiver to include eighth-graders.

"We should have done it again this season," he noted. "A lot of other schools did – and we have a whole class (sophomores) to fill."

## Westford on Saturday

The season kicked off last night (Wednesday), after *Townsmen* presstime, with a home game against Boston Latin.

Home games will again be played at the Phillips Academy Harrison Rink.

The Lady Warriors return to the ice Saturday afternoon against fellow Division 2 power Westford Academy at the Tyngsboro Skate 3 Pavilion (4 p.m.).

## BOYS ICE HOCKEY

With all but two key players from a team that barely missed qualifying for the MIAA Division 2 North Tournament last year (by two points), it stands to reason the Andover High boys varsity hockey squad will improve on its 7-9-4 won-lost-tied mark.

"We're basically the same team," said second-year head coach Mario Martiniello.

"We have our first three lines back intact, five veteran defensemen and the No. 1 goaltender."

"With all that experience we definitely hope to finish with a better record."

"We have a lot of speed and hope to capitalize on it. We also should score a few more goals," said Martiniello.

The locals did outscore the opposition last season, netting 62 goals in 20 games (3.1 average) while allowing 58.

But boosting that average by one or two more goals per game could mean a tourney berth – and a possible challenge for the Merrimack Valley-Dual County League Division 2 championship.

Five one-goal losses and a four-game losing streak late in the season hurt AHS, which played reigning conference and State Division 2 champion Boston Latin tough both times with a 2-2 tie and 2-1 loss to the Wolfpack.

The only graduates were defensemen and team captains Matt Quinlan and Mike Muccio.

Quinlan, an All-Conference selection, is attending Phillips-Exeter Academy and Muccio is at Bentley College where he played on the football team this fall.

## Veteran crew

The returning cast of forwards is led by senior captain Mike Lamagna, senior assistant captain Matt Colby and senior assistant captain A.J. Drivas.

Colby contributed eight goals and seven assists as last year's third high scorer. He has 25 goals and 14 assists for his three-year varsity career.

Drivas had seven goals, four assists last winter and Lamagna is also a four-year veteran.

Other senior forwards are Phil Kim and Austin Gilbert, juniors are Tucker Mullin, Colin Brennan and P.J. Paonessa, and the lone sophomore is John Hyslip.

Mullin was the top pointman last year, posting 20 with nine goals and 11 assists, while Hyslip was close behind as a freshman with nine goals, nine assists.

Kim (5-7-12), Gilbert (3-8-11) and Brennan (4-5-9) were other offensive contributors.

Returning at the blue line are seniors Andrew Gatti and Mike O'Hearn along with juniors Dan Godefroi, Greg Carroll and Jeff Martin.

That quintet combined to score four goals and pass out seven assists last year.

Sophomore Zac Frish is back in net, having recorded three shutouts (Dracut, Tewksbury, Canton) as a freshman, and junior Dan Abreau has transferred from Malden Catholic after spending his freshman year at AHS as backup to a pair of junior goalies.

"The goaltending is stronger," said Martiniello. "Zac was thrown into the fire as a freshman – and he did well. He and Dan give us experience."

The five newcomers on the 21-player roster, culled from an original turnout of 61 candidates, are freshman defenseman Riki Retelle, sophomore forward Mike Pierce, sophomore rearguards Kevin Drew, Jon Cahill and sophomore goaltender John Booth.

## Tough opener

The Golden Warriors had a tough opener last night (Wednesday), after *Townsmen* presstime, against Boston Latin at North-eastern University's Matthews Arena in Boston.

The prolific Wolfpack had a pair of 50-point scorers last season who both left the team this year to play Junior hockey.

The first five games are on the road, including three in the annual Salem, N.H. ICenter Holiday Tournament Dec. 28-30. Opponents and times will be announced soon.

Home games will again be played at the Merrimack Valley Forum in Lawrence, with the first contest on friendly ice Jan. 4 versus Lincoln-Sudbury (6 p.m.).

The schedule has homestands of three and four games, along with another five straight on the road in February. AHS plays 12 of its 20 games at enemy rinks.

Pre-season games were held against Acton-Boxboro, North Reading and Marblehead.

Non-leaguers, in addition to the Salem tourney, are against Gloucester (away, Jan. 18) and Duxbury (away, Feb. 11).

AHS is again in MV/DCL Division 2 with Boston Latin, Tewksbury, Methuen, Haverhill and Lincoln-Sudbury.

League crossover opponents are Division 1 Billerica, Chelmsford, Central Catholic and Division 3 Lowell and Dracut.

Martiniello expects Latin, Lincoln-Sudbury and Tewksbury to be MV/DCL 2 title contenders.

Martiniello played high school hockey at Wilmington from 1984-88 for the man he succeeded at Andover, Bill Cullen, and he previously was an assistant/co-head at Salem, N.H. High for three years including 2003-04 when the Blue Devils won the New Hampshire State Division 1 championship.

He manages a new rink in Tewksbury, from which he operates several hockey schools.

The Andover staff also includes varsity assistants Scott Manty, Steve Neal and first-year JV coach Mark Mullen.

## BOYS SWIM &amp; DIVE

The schedule is more diversified and the expectations are high for the Andover High natators as they plunge into the 2005-06 season with a veteran team.

In the past each of the five Merrimack Valley Conference teams competed against the other four twice each – tossing in a couple of non-league opponents to round out regular season competition.

This winter there will be just one meet apiece with perennial power Chelmsford, Lowell, Haverhill and Central Catholic.

The remainder of a projected 12-meet campaign, the most in program history, will be filled out by six Middlesex League teams and two other familiar rivals.

Adding some zest will be dual meets against first-time foes Burlington, Winchester, Belmont, Reading, Melrose and Lexington.

Acton-Boxboro and Xaverian High of Westwood, both of whom nipped the Golden Warriors last year by six and two points respectively, round out the agenda.

The non-MVC meets will count on the overall record but not towards the conference championship.

"It should be more fun because we're seeing so many different teams – 12 meets against 12 opponents," said eighth-year Andover head coach Mark Taffe.

AHS enters the new era with a lot of youth and experience.

Eighteen lettermen return including seven seniors, two juniors and nine sophomores.

Mix in 10 freshmen and you have the entire 27-athlete roster.

The five graduates included a pair of Sectional and State Meet scorers, 2004-05 captains Jonathan Meltz (attending the University of Maryland) and Chris Mullen (Southern Methodist).

Also gone are Alex Anestis, Tim Avila and Felipe Machado.

Taffe's teams have gone 47-26 in dual meets, including 6-4 last year when AHS placed second to Chelmsford in the MVC, 9th at the North Sectionals and 8th at the State Meet.

Two years ago the locals had their best season ever, 10-1 in dual meets as MVC co-champs (with Chelmsford) before finishing 5th at the State Meet.

## Leading the charge

"I think we're pretty well-rounded," said

Continued on page 18

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# Making it look easy

Girls, boys hoop teams open their seasons with wins

By Rick Harrison

And so it begins.

The Andover High girls and boys varsity basketball teams launched their 2005-06 seasons in impressive and aggressive style with Merrimack Valley Conference victories Tuesday night.

The girls placed three players in double figures, with Lauren Hughes, Maggie Cosgrove and Meghan Thomann combining for 39 points, as they blasted past host Dracut, 65-31.

The boys, trailing by a point at the half, took over early in the second session and rode the double-digit scoring of Capt. Casey Cosgrove, Greg Vetrano and Bobby Hughes to a 68-58 triumph over stubborn visitor Methuen at the Dunn Gym.

## GIRLS GAME

### Andover 65

### Dracut 31

After falling behind 6-0 two minutes

into the game, the Lady Warriors settled down and took complete control.

"We were taking good shots at the beginning - but they just didn't drop," said AHS coach Jim Tildsley. "Once we started to pick up the pace everything fell into place."

"We ran with a purpose, distributed the ball well, and did a good job getting our passes down low where the girls inside finished off the plays."

After the slow start, the locals ended up with a large number of high-percentage shots and hit 51 percent from the floor (27-for-53).

A 32-9 run over the final 14 minutes of the opening half gave AHS a 32-15 lead at the break. They outscored the Middies by a similar 33-16 margin in the second half.

Thirteen players saw action and nine scored.

Sophomore center Lauren Hughes led the way with 14 points, hitting 6-of-7 shots

while adding nine rebounds, three assists and a steal.

Junior guard and Capt. Maggie Cosgrove contributed 13 points, four assists and a steal, while sophomore guard Meghan Thomann nailed 5-of-8 field goals (two treys) to finish with 12 points, seven boards, three assists and a steal.

Sophomore guard Laura Renfro resumed her outside sniping, burying a pair of threes while producing eight points and four assists.

In her varsity debut, sophomore forward Amanda Fantini had six points (3-of-4 shooting) and four rebounds.

Capt. Kelly O'Dea scored five points, sophomore guard Ilana Cohen nailed a three-pointer and notching a field goal each were Sara Kelleher and sophomore newcomer Jordy Shoemaker.

Also contributing quality minutes were Camille Fantini (three assists, steal), Jen Merinder, Kasey O'Dea and Sarah LoMedico.

Dracut, which did not have a player in double figures, was led by Kristin Agrella with nine points, Stephanie Rolfe seven and Andrea Ferri seven.

\*\*\*

"The first big test is this weekend," said Tildsley, referring to the Gardner Holiday Tournament tomorrow night and Saturday.

Andover opens with a semifinal round game tomorrow evening (5:30 p.m.) at Gardner High against traditional Central Mass. Division 1 power Holy Name of Worcester.

## BOYS GAME

### Andover 68

### Methuen 58

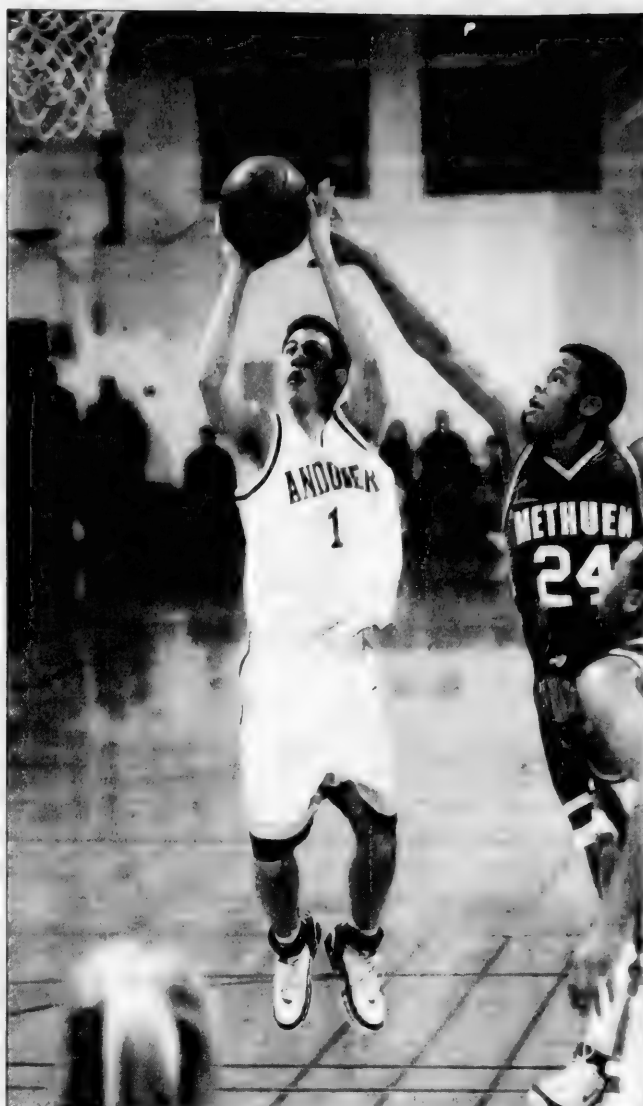
The Rangers gave AHS a stern test in the opener, taking a 31-30 halftime advantage before the Golden Warriors took charge.

"Word gets around before the season starts and we knew Methuen was coming here with a good, solid team," said Andover head coach Dave Fazio.

"We had some jitters in the beginning and missed a lot of early layups - but overall this was a strong performance and a good start for us. We moved the ball well and looked like a team."

"Bobby Hughes was saddled with three fouls in the first half - but he came out and played a great second half. He and Casey (Cosgrove) sparked us right out of the gate," said Fazio.

"Defensively we held them to 58. We always strive for 50 points or less. But in a season opener against a quality team -



Senior guard Greg Vetrano shoots over a Methuen defender. Vetrano scored 15 points as Andover won Tuesday night, 68-58, over Methuen.

we'll take it."

Senior guard and Quinnipiac College recruit Cosgrove led the locals with 18 points, six assists and three steals.

Senior guard Greg Vetrano picked up 15 points, five assists and four steals, while senior 6'4" forward Hughes pitched in with 14 points and a team-high 10 rebounds.

Junior six-foot guard Ian Dempsey came through with eight points and seven boards, while sophomore forward Tristan Shannon had six points, sophomore forward Chris Abreau debuted with five points and senior guard Tyler Carroll converted

two free throws.

Senior perpetual-motion twin guards Max and Sam Ball played well defensively while forwards Peter White and Gordon Dubois turned in quality minutes.

AHS held a slim 24-23 edge in field goals, but outscored Methuen 15-6 from behind the three-point arc and hit 15-of-24 foul shots to the Rangers' 10-for-19.

The Golden Warriors face a rugged non-league exam tomorrow night (Friday when they host Boston College High 7 p.m. varsity tipoff) at the Dunn.

## BOX SCORES

### GIRLS GAME

#### ANDOVER 65, DRACUT 31

**Andover** - Sarah LoMedico 0-0-0, Maggie Cosgrove 5-2-13, Amanda Fantini 3-0-8, Kasey O'Dea 0-0-0, Meghan Thomann 5-0-12, Jen Menender 0-0-0, Sara Kelleher 1-0-2, Kelly O'Dea 2-1-5, Laura Renfro 3-0-8, Lauren Hughes 6-2-14, Camille Fantini 0-0-0, Jordy Shoemaker 1-0-2, Ilana Cohen 1-0-3. **Totals:** 27-5-65.  
**Dracut** - Alex Milonis 1-0-2, Kristin Agrella 4-1-9, Kayla Conway 1-2-4, Jess Healy 1-0-2, Stephanie Rolfe 3-1-7, Kara Lyons 0-0-0, Andrea Ferri 2-3-7, Courtney Mahoney 0-0-0, Sarah Monette 0-0-0. **Totals:** 12-7-31.  
**Halftime:** Andover, 32-15. **3-pointers:** A. Thomann 2, Renfro 2, Cosgrove 1, Cohen 1.  
**Rebounds:** A. Hughes 9, Thomann 7, Fantini 4.  
**Assists:** A. Cosgrove 4, Renfro 4, Thomann 3, Hughes 3, CFantini 3. **Steals:** A. Cosgrove 1, Thomann 1, Hughes 1, CFantini 1. **Records:** Andover 1-0, Dracut 0-1.

### BOYS GAME

#### ANDOVER 68, METHUEN 58

**Methuen** - Bettino 0-0-0, Haggard 1-1-3, Waldie 2-1-5, Paoletto 6-5-19, Konthos 2-1-5, Diaz 3-0-6, Agbola 8-1-17, Trejo 1-1-3, Spadaro 0-0-0. **Totals:** 23-10-58.  
**Andover** - Greg Vetrano 4-5-15, Max Ball 0-0-0, Casey Cosgrove 7-2-18, Sam Ball 0-0-0, Tyler Carroll 0-2-2, Ian Dempsey 3-1-8, Tristan Shannon 2-2-6, Peter White 0-0-0, Bobby Hughes 7-0-14, Gordon Dubois 0-0-0, Chris Abreau 1-3-5. **Totals:** 24-15-68.  
**Halftime:** Methuen, 31-30. **3-pointers:** A. Vetrano 2, Cosgrove 2, Dempsey 1, M. Paoletto 2.  
**Rebounds:** A. Hughes 10, Dempsey 7. **Assists:** A. Cosgrove 6, Vetrano 5. **Steals:** Vetrano 4, Cosgrove 3. **Records:** Andover 1-0, Methuen 0-1.



Casey Cosgrove

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## AHS FOOTBALL

## 2005 Andover High football honors announced

Buddy Farnham received the top honor, the Richard Collins Most Valuable Player Award, as the 2005 Andover High football team held their annual banquet this past Sunday at Andover Country Club.

Other major hardware went to Dan Vining, Tom White, Alec Yount, J.B. Israel and Jake Stamas.

The award winners:

## 2005 ANDOVER HIGH FOOTBALL AWARDS

**JV Offensive Player**  
Tripp Stevens  
**JV Defensive Player**  
Corey Steele  
**Scout Team Player**  
Mike Tanner  
**Special Teams Player**  
Nick Morissette  
**Coaches Offensive Player**  
Mike Pierce  
**Coaches Defensive Player**  
Mike D'Angelo  
**Most Dedicated**  
Chris Robbat  
**Joe Celia Unsung Hero**  
Adam Cuomo  
**John Curtin Sportsmanship**  
John Kim  
**Dick Bourdelais Outstanding End**  
Jake Stamas  
**Mike Marinaro Outstanding Defensive Lineman**  
J.B. Israel  
**Major Williams Walsh Outstanding Offensive Lineman**  
Alec Yount  
**Outstanding Offensive Player**  
Tom White  
**Outstanding Defensive Player**  
Dan Vining  
**Richard Collins Most Valuable Player**  
Buddy Farnham

## 2005 ANDOVER FOOTBALL SEASON STATISTICS

FINAL  
(11 games)

	TD	PA	Pts.
Buddy Farnham	13	4	82
Tom White	5	6	36
Jeff Belardo	5	0	30
x-Ken Masse	1	17	29
Mike D'Angelo	2	2	14
Mike Pierce	2	0	12
Adam Cuomo	1	0	6
P.J. Farnham	1	0	6
Dan Vining	1	0	6

x = kicked 2 field goals

TD Passes: Tom White 6, Mike Pierce 4.

TD Receptions: Buddy Farnham 8, Adam Cuomo 1, P.J. Farnham 1.

## GAME-BY-GAME

ANDOVER (4-7)	Dracut 51, Andover 12
North Andover 20, Andover 14 (ot)	Andover 37, Methuen 26
Andover 24, Lincoln-Sudbury 7	Andover 21, Haverhill 14
Tewksbury 34, Andover 21	Chelmsford 39, Andover 29
Andover 21, St. Bernard's 7	Central Catholic 22, Andover 6
Billerica 28, Andover 14	Points For: 221
Lowell 38, Andover 22	Points Against: 286

## 2005 MVC FOOTBALL

FINAL STANDINGS  
(11 games)

	W	L	Ov	PF	PA
Billerica	8	0	9-3	259	117
Chelmsford	6	2	7-4	254	180
Central Catholic	5	3	6-4	169	156
Dracut	5	3	8-3	311	231
Lowell	4	4	6-5	241	143
Tewksbury	4	4	5-6	176	184
ANDOVER	2	6	4-7	221	286
Haverhill	2	6	2-9	109	193
Methuen	0	8	0-10	110	254

## THANKSGIVING DAY SCORES

Central Catholic 22, ANDOVER 6

Billerica 21, Chelmsford 0

Lowell 27, Haverhill 0

Dracut 22, Methuen 20

Wilmington 28, Tewksbury 13, non-league

## PLAYOFF GAME

EMass. Div. 1A Semifinal

at Leary Field, Acton

Woburn 14, Billerica 0

NOTE: Woburn beat Newton North 34-7 in the Eastern Mass. Division 1A Super Bowl.

## HALL OF FAME

## Hall of Fame Banquet is Jan. 20

A very impressive class of inductees will assemble at Andover Country Club on Thursday night, Jan. 20 for the Punchard/Andover High School Hall of Fame Banquet.

Fourteen individuals and three football teams, spanning the years from 1946 through 1998, will be enshrined during the

course of the evening program, which begins at 6.

THE honorees, in alphabetical order with year of graduation in parentheses where applicable, are Susan Ashlock (1996), long-time football/track coach Dick Collins, Chris Eggert (1990), Amy Heseltine (1992), Justin Heseltine (1993), Stacey Lavoie (1994), Joe Marinaro (1991), Lee Dziadosz Metzger (1989), Charlotte Muller (1998), Sarah Muller (1998), Tim Perry (1986), Robert W. Phinney (1946), Jerry Stabile (1977) and Richard Swift.

Also entering The Hall will be members of Andover's 1973 through 1975 football teams, which qualified for the Eastern Mass. Division 2 Super Bowl three straight years and won titles in 1974 and 1975.

"It's a terrific group," said Andover High co-athletic director Dave Nichols. "The really special highlight is having both Dick Collins and his three Super Bowl teams inducted at the same time."

These selectees were chosen from those submitted to the HOF committee during an ongoing nomination period over the past few months.

In addition to being outstanding athletically, the only other major stipulation is nominees must have been graduated or retired from Andover High for at least five years.

Each inductee will receive an individual plaque and have his/her name engraved on new permanent plaques hanging on the walls in the foyer outside the Dunn Gym.

The new class of 2006 joins an existing group of 97 individual Andover Athletic Hall of Famers and two other teams, the state champion 1949 and 1970 boys basketball squads.

Indications from banquet organizers are that every inductee will attend, including several traveling from far corners of the country.

Tickets for the event, which went on sale earlier this month and can be purchased until Jan. 12, are \$40 each.

For more ticket information contact the Andover High School Athletic Office, located at AHS between the Dunn Gym and Field House, or call the office at 978-623-8670.

Starting next week, biographical sketches on each of the inductees will be published, with information provided by various sources including the honoree, family, friends and the AHS athletic department headed by co-athletic directors Nichols and Brian McNally.

Photos of the inductees are welcome and may be submitted to Jack Grady, assistant editor, Andover Townsman, 33 Chestnut St., Andover, 01810. E-mail them to: jack@andovertownsman.com.

## AHS PREVIEW

## BOYS SWIM &amp; DIVE

Continued from page 16

coach Taffie. "We have several solid competitors in every event."

"And although we're young we have a number of underclassmen that have competed at sectionals and states and know what that's all about."

The seven returning seniors are Capt. Justin Ferguson (sprint freestyle), Capt. Mike Stewart (middle-distance free), Rob Medaglio (butterfly, all free distances), Matt Biles (freestyle, relays), Pat Delacoste (sprint free), Brian O'Connor (sprint free) and one-meier diver/sprint freestyler Joe Savoca.

Medaglio scored in four events at sectionals and states last winter, placing top 12 while competing in the 200 and 500 free and two relays.

Savoca returns after diving as a sophomore two years ago and taking last season off.

Juniors are Dave Espindle (200 IM, 100 backstroke) and Kevin O'Donnell (IM, sprint free).

Leading the sophomore contingent is Christian Bishop (distance free, backstroke), who scored in the 500 at last year's big meets.

Other veteran 10th graders are versatile Peter Saunders (100 butterfly, backstroke, all freestyles), Luke Delissio (sprint free), Tom Demers (middle-distance free), Mike Geraci (sprint free), Zach Hamer (100 breaststroke, IM), Andrew Janetti (backstroke, middle-distance free), Peter Li (sprint and middle free, backstroke) and Tim Russell (sprint free, backstroke).

The cast of incoming freshman rookie prospects includes Mike Bakes (sprint free), Nick D'Innocenzo (breaststroke, IM, distance free), Adam Kleger (sprint free), Steve Moore (sprint, mid-distance free), Devon Mullen (sprint, mid-distance free), Albert Park (sprint free), Craig Schwarz (sprint free), Peter Wakeling (diving), Yabo Liu (backstroke, sprint free) and Jeremy Fox (sprint free).

Adam Moskal returns as AHS assistant coach.

## On the road

The Golden Warriors open the dual-meet season today (Thursday) at Burlington (3:30 p.m.), and return home next Tuesday to host Winchester at the Greater Lawrence Vo-Tech pool (3:30).

The first MVC meet is next Thursday at home versus Lowell (3:30).

The inaugural Christmas Classic, an individual jamboree-type event involving the five MVC teams, will be held Dec. 29 with a noon start at Haverhill's White Natatorium.

"Chelmsford (away, Feb. 3) is still the team to beat in the conference - but I think we're moving towards parity," said Taffie.

"We'll be competitive, and both Central Catholic and Haverhill should be pretty good as well."

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# Arts & Entertainment

## EVENTS CALENDAR



COURTESY PHOTO

Dance Prism brings its 23rd annual production of *The Nutcracker* to the Collins Center this Saturday, Dec. 17 at 2:30 and 6:30 p.m., and again on Sunday, Dec. 18 at 2:30 p.m. [More information is on page 21.] Steve Cormey, of North Andover, will play the Snow King to principal Clarissa Eaton's Snow Queen.

### Thursday, December 15

**An English Christmas**, featuring a dramatization of Dickens's *A Christmas Carol*, presented by Andover Sister Towns Association, Inc. 7 p.m., West Parish Church, 129 Reservation Road; 978-470-0702.

**Live jazz** featuring the jazz and swing duo Talk of the Town, 8-11 p.m., no cover charge, the White Rainbow Restaurant, 65 Main St., Gloucester; 978-281-0017.

### Friday, December 16

**The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe**, C.S. Lewis's first narrative in his *Chronicles of Narnia*, comes to life for three weekends at the Firehouse Center for the Arts in Newburyport, presented by Theater in the Open, 7:30 p.m., \$15, \$12 seniors and students, Market Square, Newburyport; 978-465-2572.

### Saturday, December 17

**The Nutcracker Ballet**, by Dance Prism, a Boston-area professional ballet company, in its 23rd annual production of the ballet, an acclaimed professional production that has appeared throughout New England since 1983, featuring a cast of dancers from six states and the favorite attributes of the beloved holiday presentation: falling snow, a reindeer-drawn sleigh, and a magically growing Christmas tree; 2:30 and 6:30 p.m., \$20, \$14 for children and seniors, group rates available, at the Collins Center, 100 Shawshen Road; for tickets, call the box office at 978-371-1038 or visit the Web site [www.danceprism.com](http://www.danceprism.com).

**"A Christmas Collage" concert**, by the New England Classical Singers, presenting a collection of glorious holiday music for chorus, brass quartet and continuo, featuring Old English tunes, pieces by Bach and Pachelbel, Brahms and others, as well as an old-fashioned carol sing, 7:30 p.m., \$20, \$15 seniors, \$5 students, at the Rogers Center for the Performing Arts, Merrimack College, 315 Turnpike St., North Andover; 978-837-5355 or [www.newenglandclassical.org](http://www.newenglandclassical.org).

**Saturday in "The Loop,"** 1-3 p.m., both children and adults can ride the fun-filled, trackless Holiday Express train (donations accepted

for Pentucket Peoples Foundation, a Merrimack Valley charity), 2-3 p.m., King of Grace Church Chorale of Methuen, The Loop, 90 Pleasant Valley St., Methuen; 978-946-9333.

**The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe**, 3 and 7:30 p.m., see entry for Friday, Dec. 16.

### Sunday, December 18

**'Tis the Season** concert, second annual concert in the voices of Andover Baptist Church, featuring the Kelly Brothers singers of Lawrence, 7 p.m., Andover Baptist Church, 7 Central St.; 978-475-0166.

**Outdoor Christmas pageant**, 29th annual pageant presenting a half-hour narrative with choral accompaniment, and featuring Andover residents Fitz, Susan and Cooper Granger playing in the roles of Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus, as the historic West Parish Garden Cemetery Arch once again becomes the entrance to Bethlehem, 5 p.m., free and open to the public, with food donations for area food pantries gratefully accepted at the archway prior to the pageant, West Parish Church, 129 Reservation Road; 978-475-3528 or [www.westparishchurch.org](http://www.westparishchurch.org).

**Treble chorus concert**, "A Musical Holiday Journey" featuring classical holiday music in an international pastiche of carols, conducted by Robert Barney and Valerie Becker, including all four choruses of the Treble Chorus of New England, 4 p.m., \$20, \$12 seniors and students, at the Rogers Center for the Performing Arts, Merrimack College, 315 Turnpike St., North Andover; 978-837-5355 or [www.treblechorus.com](http://www.treblechorus.com).

**Sunday in "The Loop,"** 1-3 p.m., Holiday Hayrides, climb aboard and make a shopping trip a memorable one; entertainment by the Mill City Jazz Machine, four talented musicians plus one unusual truck, The Loop, 90 Pleasant Valley St., Methuen; 978-946-9333.

**Jazz music**, the Barbara and Al Boudreau Quartet, featuring special guest Kenny Wenzel, Artie Shaw's trombonist, and regulars Jack Senior on piano, Mark Carlsen on bass, Al Boudreau on drums and Barbara Boudreau

Continued on page 20



Jennifer Zhang (left), Yu Wang and Sheng-Sheng Wang (not pictured) are helping to bring the Chinese New Year Global Gala to Boston's Majestic Theater in January. Zhang has also arranged for the Andover-based Treble Chorus of New England, shown rehearsing in the background, to perform at the Gala.

## Andoverites promoting Chinese New Year Gala

Local volunteers using their connections and enthusiasm

By Brian Davidson

THE CHINESE NEW YEAR GLOBAL GALA, an annual production put on by the Chinese-North American satellite station New Tang Dynasty Television, is coming to Boston this January for the first time, thanks in large part to Andover's own Jennifer Zhang.

A volunteer community reporter for NTDTV, Zhang has attended the non-profit event in New York City for the past two years and has been utterly mesmerized by each show.

"I was so touched that I wanted to bring it here to Boston," she said.

With little money and no promotional experience, she has almost single-handedly managed to do just that.

After pitching the idea to NTDTV headquarters in New York, she then secured Cutler Majestic Theatre as the venue, and has now organized a team of volunteers from the greater Boston area to promote the festive show.

Two of those volunteers, Sheng-Sheng Wang and Yu Wang, are also Andover residents.

"We are volunteers, we don't have money or experience," Zhang said. "So we can only use our connections and our enthusiasm."

While spreading word of the event to local schools and multi-cultural organizations, Zhang has also arranged for the Andover-based Treble Chorus of New England to perform at the Gala, which will feature both international and local talent.

The chorus rehearses weekly at the West Parish Church and regularly sings in six dif-



PHOTO BY TIM LEAN

Rehearsing members of the Treble Chorus of New England (above and below) will sing one traditional western song as well as a classical Chinese piece at the Chinese New Year Global Gala.

ferent languages. The roughly 60 members, ranging from 7 to 18 years old, will sing one traditional western song as well as a classical Chinese piece at the New Year Gala.

"It's really a cultural exchange," said Zhang. "And on top of that it's getting our culture into the mainstream."

The theme of this year's show is "Myths and Legends" and it will incorporate traditional Chinese dragons, music, dance, martial arts, and a dazzling lights display.

World-class performers who have participated in past years include the Julliard String Quartet, American Ballet Theatre, Empire Brass Quintet, Tianjiao Performing Arts Group, and Guan Guimin, otherwise

known as "China's Pavarotti."

Now in its third year, the Chinese New Year Global Gala can be seen in 15 cities worldwide and will debut in Boston on Saturday, Jan. 7 at Emerson College's Cutler Majestic Theatre.

Zhang encourages people of all ages and cultural backgrounds to attend.

"It's just going to be an eye-dazzling event that everyone who goes will remember for a long, long time," she said.

► To learn more about this event, check out <http://newyeargala.ndtv.com/2006/en/cities/bos/>.



Two exhibitions at the Addison Gallery of American Art celebrate children. *Little Women, Little Men: Folk Art Portraits of Children* from the Fenimore Art Museum and *Child's Play: Children from the Addison Collection* are both on display through Dec. 31. Above: *Boys in a Dory* by Winslow Homer, watercolor and graphite on wove paper, 13.5 x 19.5 inches, is included in the *Child's Play* exhibition.



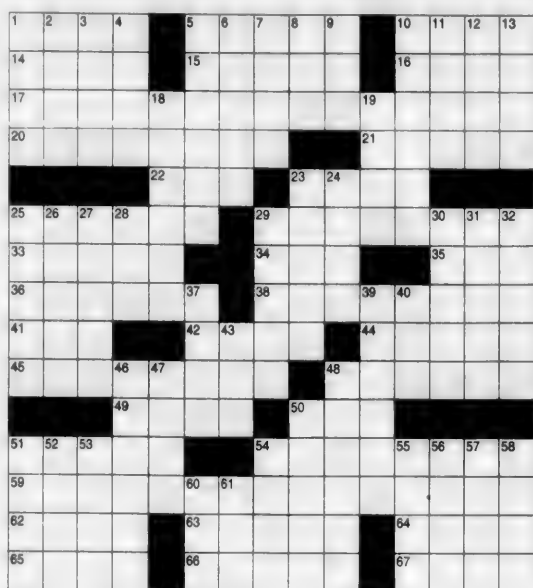
Now in its third year, the Chinese New Year Global Gala will debut in Boston on Saturday, Jan. 7 at Emerson College's Cutler Majestic Theatre. The gala can be seen in 15 cities worldwide.



## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

## CLUES ACROSS

1. Uncovered
5. Secret
10. Radiotelegraphic signals
14. Phil \_\_\_\_, former CIA
15. Ancient Greek
16. Stock purchase plan
17. See 59 across
20. Backwardnesses
21. Squalid
22. Not just "play"
23. Description
25. Ropes
29. As the crow flies
33. Purgatives
34. Be in pain
35. Type of copier
36. Most unusual
38. American state
41. Shoshonean
42. Cicatrix
44. Weather and wind
45. Bourgeois
48. Bryophytes
49. Paddles
50. Mythological bird
51. Alter
54. Continually complaining or fault-finding
59. Commemorative event with 17 across
62. Buffalo
63. Dilation
64. Hebrew calendar month



65. Program
66. Cubes (verb)
67. Rail

## CLUES DOWN

1. Italian Seaport
2. Developed
3. \_\_\_\_, Strauss, jeans maker
4. Showing
5. Playoff
6. Not technical
7. Ancient Olympic Site
8. Own (Scottish)
9. Kilocalorie, abbr.
10. Determine
11. Arthur \_\_\_\_, Wimbledon champi-

- on
12. Worked the soil
13. Nimble
18. Other side
19. Selfish person
23. More timid
24. Inquiry
25. Alarm
26. Winged
27. More sensitive
28. Center
29. Anwar \_\_\_\_, Egyptian statesman
30. Linda \_\_\_\_, actress
31. Geology
32. Hairstyle
37. Despot
39. Shorebird
40. No longer is
43. Central nervous system, abbr.
46. Ballroom dances
47. Pilgrim's journey
48. Robert \_\_\_\_, American revolutionary
50. European river
51. Kwa
52. Belonging to me
53. Enough (archaic)
54. Invests in little enterprises
55. Expression of relief
56. Unemployed
57. Algonquian tribe
58. Type genus of the Hyliidae
60. Radioactivity unit
61. \_\_\_\_ fi (slang)

## EVENTS CALENDAR

## ■ DEC. 15 THRU DEC. 25

Continued from page 19  
doing vocals, 5-8 p.m., \$5 music charge, reservations recommended, Stripers Grille, 175 Bridge St., Salisbury; 978-499-0400.

**The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe**, 3 p.m., see entry for Friday, Dec. 16.

**The Nutcracker Ballet**, 2:30 p.m., see entry for Saturday, Dec. 17.

## Monday, December 19

"Look Good, Feel Better," seminar sponsored by the Greater Lawrence unit of the American Cancer Society, teaches patients with cancer hands-on cosmetic techniques to help them cope with the appearance-related side effects of chemotherapy and radiation treatment, participants receive a free makeup kit, noon-2 p.m., free but registration is required, Caritas Holy Family Hospital, 70 East St., Methuen; Gail Palermo 978-687-0156, Ext. 2021.

## Tuesday, December 20

Chamber holiday networking, Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce will hold "A Happy Holiday" networking mixer for members and non-members to get acquainted, co-sponsored by the chamber with Bank of America, the event is hosted by Andover

Country Club, 60 Canterbury St., 5-7 p.m., members pay \$10 per person, bring a friend and the price is \$15 for both, non-members pay \$20; 978-686-0900 or www.merri-mackvalleychamber.com.

## Wednesday, December 21

No events listed.

## Thursday, December 22

No events listed.

## Friday, December 23

No events listed.

Saturday, December 24  
Christmas Eve

No events listed.

Sunday, December 25  
Christmas Day

**Hanukkah on Wheels**, a community roller-skating program, 1:30-4 p.m., with face painting, raffles, music, kosher fast food and a menorah lighting at the end of the program, \$5, free for children under three (food not included in the price), bring skates or rent a pair for \$3, Roller Kingdom in Hudson; for information, telephone Debbie Goldstein 978-749-8065.

## Ongoing

## Seasonal Activities

**A Christmas Carol at North Shore Music Theatre**, the 17th year of NSMT's production of the musical based on Dickens's memorable characters is underway, with performances every day through Saturday, Dec. 24, and featuring a winter wonderland of festive surroundings, including lights, decorations, wassail bowl, gatherings with cast members and all the magic and merriment of the season; tickets are priced from \$35 to \$68, North Shore Music Theatre Dunham Road, Beverly; call the box office at 978-232-7200.

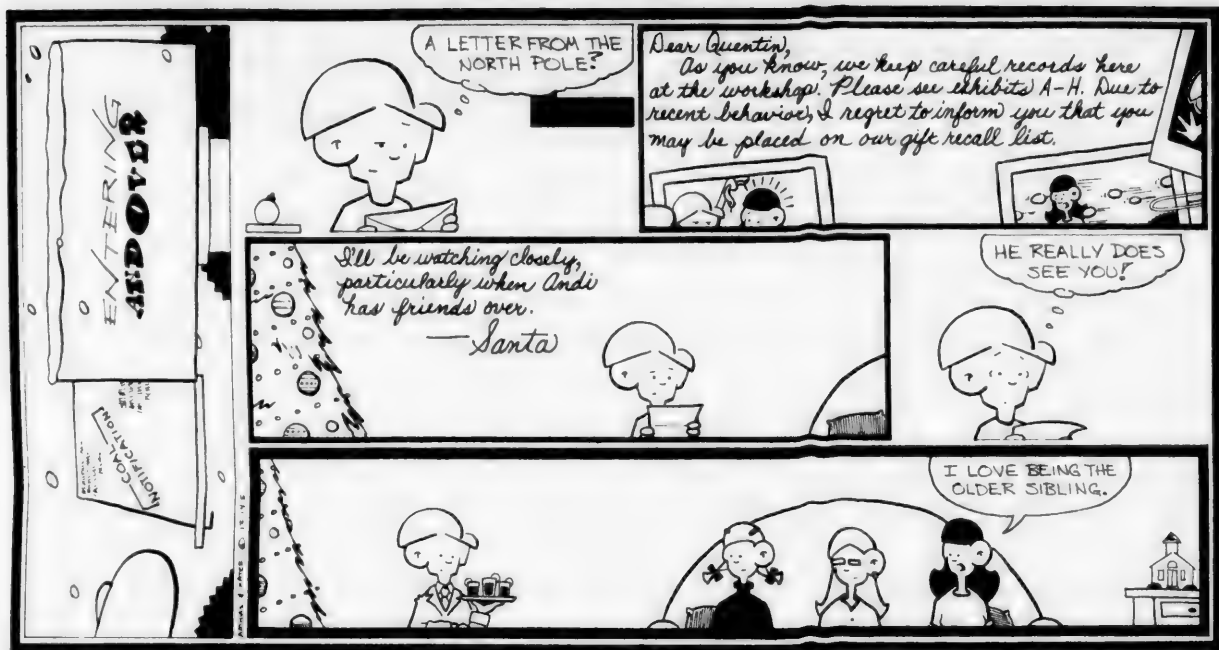
**A Christmas Story**, about Ralphie, a boy of the 1940s who wants just one thing for Christmas—a Red Ryder BB gun, at the Stoneham Theatre through Dec. 23, 395 Main St., Stoneham; for ticket prices and availability: box office 781-279-2200 or www.StonehamTheatre.org.

**Zoolights**, the Stone Zoo in Stoneham is all decked out to sparkle, a winter wonderland filled with thousands of lights; visit the brightly-lit Yukon Creek, where Arctic foxes, bald eagles, a lynx and a pair of real reindeer reside; Santa will be on hand for photos; Santa's Castle is full of fairy-tale characters and

Continued on page 21

## ENTERING ANDOVER

By Neil Fater and Don Mathias



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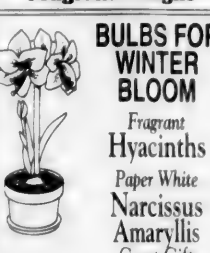


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## EVENTS CALENDAR

## ONGOING

Continued from page 20

dancing plush animals; daily through Dec. 30 (closed Dec. 25), 5-9 p.m., \$4 general admission, \$3 for members, free for children under 2, Stone Zoo, 149 Pond St., Stoneham; 617-541-5466 or [www.zoonewengland.org](http://www.zoonewengland.org).

**Amesbury Playhouse Dinner Theater.** Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol* playing through Dec. 23, Thursdays at 7 p.m. (buffet at 5 p.m.), Fridays and Saturdays at 8:30 p.m. (dinner, 7 p.m.) and Sundays at 1 (dinner, noon) and at 6:30 p.m. (dinner, 5 p.m.), reservations required for all performances, \$17 show only, dinner-show combo start at \$30 and go up to \$45, depending on meal choices, Amesbury Playhouse, 194 Main St., Amesbury; 978-388-9444 or [www.amesburyplayhouse.org](http://www.amesburyplayhouse.org).

## Art Exhibitions

**Addison Gallery of American Art.** *Little Women, Little Men: Folk Art Portraits of Children from the Fenimore Art Museum and Child's Play: Children from the Addison Collection*, both on display through Dec. 31; *Unfamiliar Territory*, the photography of Oscar Palacio, through Dec. 31; regular gallery hours are Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday 1-5 p.m., free admission, Addison Gallery of American Art, Phillips Academy; 978-749-4015, [www.addisongallery.org](http://www.addisongallery.org).

**Alpers Fine Art of Andover.** through Dec. 31, *Counterpoints*, a show featuring the work of two artists, veteran painter John Mulcahy and watercolorist Stephanie Anderson, gallery hours Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Friday and Saturday 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 2 Main St.; 978-470-0013 or [www.alpersfineart.com](http://www.alpersfineart.com).

**Robert S. Peabody Museum of Archaeology.** *Objects and their Meanings: Historical Highlights of the Peabody*, displays ethnographic objects from museum's collections of North and South America and a series of photographs that illustrate the activities of the museum's key people during the last century; Tuesday through Saturday, noon-5



**Dance Prism** brings its 23rd annual production of *The Nutcracker* to the Collins Center this Saturday, Dec. 17 at 2:30 and 6:30 p.m., and again on Sunday, Dec. 18 at 2:30 p.m. The full-length production embodies Tchaikovsky's familiar ballet score in a colorful and energetic production. With its cast of 150 professional dancers, pre-professionals and children, the production is notable for keeping the stage bursting with activity, organizers said. There is a wardrobe of more than 200 costumes, full scenery, and a cornucopia of surprises: dolls popping out of an oversized package, a reindeer-drawn sleigh, falling snow, and a magically rising Christmas tree. Two local girls are part of the touring cast throughout New England. From left are eighth-graders Philine Huizinga, a student at Wood Hill Middle School, and Michaela Voorhees, who attends Doherty Middle School, along with Lea Needham-Wood (at right) as Clara. A large number of ballet students from Andover are joining the cast of *The Nutcracker* for the Andover performances only. They are: Gillian Brassil, Olivia Burns, Taylor Burns, MacKenzie Dalton, Emily Field, Angelina Lionetta, Anne Lyons, Rachel Marinelli, Courtney Plati and Madeline Thero. They will be portraying Carolers in the Party Scene. Also from Andover, appearing as Clara's friends, are Julia Kasparian, Lydia Mesler and Jillian Thero. Admission is \$20 for adults, and \$14 for children and seniors. For tickets, call the box office at 978-371-1038, or visit [www.danceprism.com](http://www.danceprism.com). Group rates are available.

p.m., by appointment only, free admission, Phillips Academy campus, 175 Main St.; 978-749-4490.

**Arthur Griffin Museum of Photography.** Tuesday-Sunday, noon-4 p.m., \$5 admission, \$2 seniors, members and children under 12 free, Thursday admission is free all day, 67 Shore Road, Winchester;

781-729-1158, [www.griffinmuseum.org](http://www.griffinmuseum.org).

**Brush Art Gallery.** regular hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday, noon-4 p.m., Brush Art Gallery and Studio, 256 Market St., Lowell; 978-459-7819 or [www.thebrush.org](http://www.thebrush.org).

**Concord Art Association.** "Dream-

ing the Light / Unfolding the Dark," a new show through Dec. 23, curated by Tamara Krendel, who describes the work as "poetic interpretations of Light & Dark in a variety of complementary styles and mediums," featuring artists working in oils, digital images and sterling, regular exhibit hours Tues-

day through Saturday 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Sunday noon-4 p.m., Concord Art Association, 37 Lexington Rd., Concord; 978-369-2578.

**COOL Gallery.** exhibit hours Tuesday and Thursday, 1-5 p.m., COOL Gallery, 338 Market St., Lowell, Cultural Organization of Lowell 978-446-7162.

**Gallery 181 Cotton Weaving House.** 181 Canal St., Lawrence; Jim 978-688-4544.

**Robert Lehman Art Center at Brooks School.** gallery hours Tuesday-Friday 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday 8:30 a.m.-noon, Sunday, 2:30-5 p.m., 1160 Great Pond Road, North Andover; 978-725-6232.

**Whistler House Museum of Art.** Wednesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., 84-245 Worthen St., Lowell; 978-452-7641.

**Memorial Hall Library.** Artist of the Month is photographer John Distefano, library hours: Monday-Saturday 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Sunday, noon-5 p.m., Norma Gammon 978-624-8401, Ext. 49, [www.mhl.org](http://www.mhl.org).

**McQuade Gallery.** located in the McQuade Library at Merrimack College, gallery hours same as library hours, Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m.-midnight, Friday, 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday, 11 a.m.-midnight, call to confirm hours, free admission; 978-837-5000.

**Essex Art Center.** regular gallery hours Monday and Wednesday, 10 a.m.-8:30 p.m., Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., galleries are free and open to the public, Essex Art Center, 56 Island St., Lawrence; Cathy McLaurin 978-685-2445 or [www.essexartcenter.com](http://www.essexartcenter.com).

**McCoy Gallery.** Merrimack College; hours Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., free admission; 978-837-5000, Ext. 4205.

**Sakowich Campus Center.** at Merrimack College, the Fireside and first floor lounges, call for hours; 978-837-5000, Ext. 4205.

**Senior Center artists.** talented artists participate in art classes and enjoy the "drop-in group" on Wednesday and Thursday mornings, art display of oils, watercolors, pencil, pen and ink, pastels and oriental brush-arts in the Music Room, Andover Senior Center, Whittier Court; 978-623-8321.

**Lorica Artworks.** gallery specializing in original fine art from Ireland and America, featuring the largest collection of original fine art from Ireland in the Boston area, presents "Gathering Season," a group show presenting recent work by 21 artists. Continued on page 22

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## EVENTS CALENDAR

## ONGOING

Continued from page 21

from Ireland and America whose images display subject matter linked to the land; gallery hours are: Tuesday, Wednesday, Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Thursday 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; and Sunday noon-4 p.m., as well as by appointment; show runs to Dec. 31; free admission, handicap access; 90 Main St.; 978-470-1829 or [www.loricaartworks.com](http://www.loricaartworks.com).

**Marland Place Gallery**, daily viewing times 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Marland Place, 15 Stevens St.; Diane 978-475-4225.

**Walsingham Gallery**, works by artists J.C. Airoidi, Robert Douglas Hunter, Jean Lightman, Elizabeth M. Leary, John Daniel Phillips, Frank Strazzulla Jr., and others; gallery hours Monday, Wednesday, Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sunday, noon-5 p.m., closed Tuesdays, 47 Merrimac St., Newburyport; 978-499-4411 [www.thewalsingham-gallery.com](http://www.thewalsingham-gallery.com).

**Montserrat College of Art 301 Gallery**, Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., and by appointment, 301 Cabot St., Beverly; Ashley Hopkins 978-921-4242, Ext. 1114.

**Evos Arts Gallery**, free, 98 Middle St., Lowell; 978-441-9906, [www.evosarts.com](http://www.evosarts.com).

**Flint Memorial Library**, 147 Park St., North Reading; 978-664-4942, [www.flintmemoriallibrary.org](http://www.flintmemoriallibrary.org).

**The State of the Art Gallery and Sculpture Garden**, Rocky Neck Art Colony, Gloucester; 978-463-8883.

**Churchill Gallery**, gallery hours are Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday noon-5 p.m., 6 Inn St., Newburyport; 978-462-9891.

**Cape Ann Historical Museum**, Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 27 Pleasant St., Gloucester; 978-283-0455.

**The Saltbox Gallery**, is exhibiting new works of the gallery artists at the Topsfield public library, featuring a representative sampling of Saltbox Gallery artists, including oils, acrylics, watercolors, pastels and hand-carved objects; the library is at 1 South Common St., Topsfield, library hours are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Wednesday and Friday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Saturday noon to 4 p.m.; gallery hours, Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m., 49 Main St., Topsfield; 978-887-3844.

**Sense of Wonder Gallery**, 622 Main St., Reading; 781-944-8986 or [www.senseofwondergifts.com](http://www.senseofwondergifts.com).

**Nevins Memorial Hall**, 305 Broadway, Methuen; 978-686-4080.

**J. David Broudo Gallery of Art**, 4:30-6 p.m.; Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Endicott College, 376

Hale St. (Route 127) Beverly; 978-232-2250.

**Halle Library Archive and Museum Gallery**, "Beyond the Classroom, Clubs, Organizations and Traditions" will be on display through Dec. 22 at Endicott College, 376 Hale St., Beverly; exhibit is free and open to the public, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Barbara Broudo 978-232-2257.

**Laura Coombs Hills Gallery**, regular gallery hours: Monday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday, noon-5 p.m., 65 Water St., Newburyport; 978-670-9102, [www.newburyport-art.org](http://www.newburyport-art.org).

**Mingo Gallery**, Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 252 Cabot St., Beverly; 978-927-5964.

**Gelb Gallery at Phillips Academy**, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, Sunday, noon-4 p.m.; 978-475-4419.

**Bravos Arts Gallery**, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., One East Main St., Georgetown; 978-352-8102.

**Ayer Lofts Art Gallery**, a cooperative artist space in Lowell, Thursdays, 6-9 p.m., Friday, Saturday, Sunday, noon-4 p.m., 172 Middle St., Lowell; Mandy Shear 617-335-0230 or [ayerlofts.com/exhibits](http://ayerlofts.com/exhibits).

**River Gallery**, Thursday through Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., 4 Market St., Ipswich; 978-356-1559.

**Revolving Museum**, artist-driven museum, dedicated to presenting public art, exhibitions, educational programs, gallery hours: Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday, noon-4 p.m., 22 Shattuck St., Lowell; 978-937-2787.

**Ocmulgee Pottery & Fine Crafts**, gallery hours Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 26 Market St., Ipswich; 978-356-1298.

**Redbrick Fine Crafts**, gallery hours Monday through Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., 26 Market St., Ipswich; 978-927-5615.

**North Shore Arts Association of Gloucester**, featuring sculptures, paintings, 11 Pirate's Lane, Gloucester, regular hours Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sunday, noon-5 p.m., including holidays; 978-283-1857.

**Ertlich Gallery**, gallery hours Tuesday through Saturdays, 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Sunday, noon-5 p.m., 96 Washington St., Marblehead; 781-631-1202.

**Newburyport Art Association**, free and open to the public; regular gallery hours are 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday, noon-5 p.m. Sunday, 65 Water St., Newburyport; 978-465-8769.

## Theater

North Shore Music Theatre pre-

sents *A Christmas Carol*, the 17th year of NSMT's production of the musical based on Dickens's memorable characters, with performances every day through Saturday, Dec. 24, and featuring a winter wonderland of festive surroundings, including lights, decorations, was-sail bowl, gatherings with cast members and all the magic and merriment of the season; tickets are priced from \$35 to \$68, North Shore Music Theater Dunham Road, Beverly; call the box office at 978-232-7200.

**Amesbury Playhouse Dinner Theater**, Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol* playing through Dec. 23, Thursdays at 7 p.m. (buffet at 5 p.m.), Fridays and Saturdays at 8:30 p.m. (dinner, 7 p.m.) and Sundays at 1 (dinner, noon) and at 6:30 p.m. (dinner, 5 p.m.), reservations required for all performances, \$17 show only, dinner-show combo start at \$30 and go up to \$45, depending on meal choices, Amesbury Playhouse, 194 Main St., Amesbury; 978-388-9444 or [www.amesburyplayhouse.org](http://www.amesburyplayhouse.org).

**Quannapowitt Players**, QP Playhouse, 55 Hopkins St., Reading; for info and tickets 781-942-2212 or [www.qptheater.com](http://www.qptheater.com).

**Le Grand David Spectacular Magic Company**, in its 30th consecutive season at the Cabot St. Cinema, every Sunday 3 p.m. (with the exception of Dec. 25), \$18, \$12 children 11 and under, Cabot St. Cinema Theater, 286 Cabot St., Beverly; 978-927-3677 or [www.legranddavid.com](http://www.legranddavid.com).

**Stoneham Theatre**, 395 Main St., Stoneham; box office 781-279-2200 or [www.stonehamtheatre.org](http://www.stonehamtheatre.org).

## Museums and Historic Homes

**Andover Historical Society**, tour the Amos Blanchard House and Barn Museum for a glimpse into life in the early 19th century. Museum tours and exhibits open Tuesdays through Saturdays 1-4 p.m., \$5 admission, students and seniors \$3. Research library and archives open Tuesdays through Saturdays 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and by appointment; 97 Main St.; 978-475-2236; [www.and-hist.org](http://www.and-hist.org).

**Boott Cotton Mills Museum**, Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 400 Foot of John St., Lowell.

**New England Quilt Museum**, Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday, noon-4 p.m., 18 Shattuck St., Lowell; 978-452-4207.

**Lawrence Heritage State Park**, daily, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., admission free, 1 Jackson St., Lawrence; 978-794-1655.

**Wenham Museum**, \$5 adults, \$3 children ages 2 and up, 132 Main St., Wenham; 978-468-2377.



COURTESY PHOTO

West Parish Church will present its 29th annual Outdoor Christmas Pageant this Sunday, Dec. 18 at 5 p.m. This annual reenactment of the Christmas story includes a cast of children, youth and adults and a stable of live animals. The public is invited to attend the free half-hour performance of gospel narration and choral accompaniment.

## A tradition for families

### 29th Outdoor Christmas Pageant Sunday

Andover residents Fitz, Susan and Cooper Granger will play the parts of Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus as the historic West Parish Garden Cemetery Arch once again becomes the entrance to Bethlehem this Sunday, Dec. 18 at 5 p.m.

This annual reenactment of the Christmas story includes a cast of children, youth and adults and a stable of live animals. Through drama, narration and carols, the audience shares in the miracle of Christmas as Mary and Joseph arrive in Bethlehem, the shepherds seek out the manger, and the wisemen bring their gifts. The biblical account of Jesus's birth and modern-day stories such as *The Littlest Angel* and *The Little Drummer Boy* are included in the reenactment.

During the last 29 years,

many past and present Andover families have been involved with the pageant. This year, Blake Martin will portray Basil, the Innkeeper, and Jim Olson is the narrator.

The public is invited to attend the free half-hour performance of gospel narration and choral accompaniment and afterwards to photograph the living Nativity scene and to enjoy refreshments in Fellowship Hall.

The Ministry of Outreach will accept non-perishable food items at the archway before the pageant.

These will be donated to local food pantries.

For more information about the Outdoor Christmas Pageant, contact Betsy Collins, West Parish Church administrator (978-475-3528), or Liz Doucette, pageant director (978-474-

1734).

The church will hold its Christmas Eve services open to all: a family service at 5 p.m., and a candlelight service at 11. Both evening services celebrate with carols and readings.

The public is invited to join these special services at the church.

Christmas Sunday service is at 10 a.m.

West Parish Church, United Church of Christ, an open and affirming church, is located at 129 Reservation Road, at the intersection of Route 133 (Lowell Street) and Shawshen Road, approximately two miles east of Route 1-93.

For details call the church between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. at 978-475-3528, or visit the Web site at [westparish-church.org](http://westparish-church.org).

**The Revolving Museum**, hours are Thursday through Sunday, noon-4 p.m., 22 Shattuck St., Lowell; 978-937-2787 [www.revolvingmuseum.org](http://www.revolvingmuseum.org).

**Stephen Phillips Memorial Trust House**, tours Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., free, 34 Chestnut St., Salem, Mass.; 978-744-0440.

**Custom House Maritime Museum**,

an exhibit dedicated to the US Coast Guard, sponsored at the museum by the Newburyport Maritime Society, has opened featuring artifacts, photographs, paintings, ship models and streaming video of Coast Guard missions; Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Thursday and Sunday, 1-4 p.m., 25 Water St., Newburyport; the museum's Lowell Boat Shop,

459 Main St., Amesbury, Wednesday-Sunday; 978-388-0162.

**Museum of Printing**, 800 Massachusetts Ave., North Andover, featuring world's largest collection of antique printing, typesetting and bindery machines, as well as the world's largest library of printing-related books and documents; in addition, the museum has the exten-

Continued on page 23

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## EVENTS CALENDAR

## ONGOING

Continued from page 22

sive printing collection of the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C. The two 90-foot galleries, library and four floors of archival stacks are all available to the public, \$5 admission, Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; 978-686-0450 or [www.museumofprinting.org](http://www.museumofprinting.org).

**North Andover Historical Society**, 153 Academy Road, North Andover, maintains two sites that feature museum galleries: 1789 Johnson Cottage, an artisan's home and workshop, and 1715 Parson Barnard House, depicting life from 1715-1830, 179 Osgood St., changing exhibits highlight local life from the 17th- to the 20th century, library and archive, \$3 adults, \$1 children, \$2 seniors, Johnson Cottage, tours Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m.-noon and 2-4 p.m., \$5 adults for a combined tour of both properties; 978-686-4035.

**American Textile History Museum** tells America's story through the art, science and history of textiles; special exhibit through April 2, "Finishing Touches": Accessories say a lot about a person in an exhibition that looks beyond the suit or dress to the last things people pick up or put on - and how they can mark an individual. These "final touches" are presented in historical terms and as a part of contemporary fashion to examine what people wear and why; how new technologies have created the need and/or desire for new accessories; how people change what they wear to keep up with fashion. Shoes, handbags, hats, shawls, capes and coats, gloves, and other pieces from ATHM's accessories collection are featured; "Family Fun," Sundays, 2 p.m. feature special hands-on programs every Sunday - stories, crafts, quilt projects, fiber arts and more; ongoing permanent exhibit "Textiles in America": textiles, tools, machines, photographs, advertising ephemera, and other artifacts that show how people have used art and science during the past 250 years to create beautiful and useful textiles; more than 500 artifacts from the museum's collections are used in imaginative period settings and gallery displays; ATHM, 491 Dutton St., Lowell; museum hours are Thursdays and Fridays 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; closed closed Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and holidays; admission \$6 for adults; \$4 for students, seniors, and groups; free for children under 6 and museum members; parking is free, and the building is wheelchair accessible; 978-441-0400 or [www.athm.org](http://www.athm.org).



Priscilla DiBlasi submitted several photos that she believes "captured a little bit of the 'Christmas in Andover' feeling." This Ballardvale picture shows a decorated bridge on the shore of the Shawsheen River, on River Street in Andover.

sion \$6 for adults; \$4 for students, seniors, and groups; free for children under 6 and museum members; parking is free, and the building is wheelchair accessible; 978-441-0400 or [www.athm.org](http://www.athm.org).

**Peabody Essex Museum**, Current shows on display include *The Artful Teapot: 20th-Century Expressions from the Kamm Collection* through March 5, "a fascinating look at how a single object - the teapot - has served as a creative vehicle for artists around the world," including teapots by Michael Graves and Roy

Lichtenstein, among more than 100 other artists; *Taj Mahal, the Building of a Legend* through July 23, highlights the internationally recognized landmark of India, which is "celebrated throughout the world for its beauty and for the tragic love story that inspired its construction, yet few people know much ... about it," until this show featuring some 40 paintings, watercolors, photographs and objects exploring the architecture and mystique of this remarkable site, and also featuring a contemporary sculpture by the Cal-

## Treble Chorus in concert Sunday

The Treble Chorus of New England will present "A Musical Holiday Journey" concert this Sunday, Dec. 18 at 4 p.m. at the Rogers Center for the Arts at Merrimack College.

This concert will feature classical holiday music in an international pastiche of carols conducted by Robert Barney.

interim artistic director, and Valerie Becker, associate director.

Included will be music from Austria, Africa, and China, as well as a movement of the Bach *Magnificat* and a selection from the Bach *Christmas Oratorio*.

It will feature all four ensembles of the Treble Chorus of

New England, as well as an audience singalong.

Tickets \$12 and \$8 (seniors/students) available through the box office at 978-837-5355, or online at [www.treblechorus.com](http://www.treblechorus.com).

For more information about the choir, visit the Web site at [www.treblechorus.com](http://www.treblechorus.com).

cutta-born, Brooklyn-based artist Rina Banerjee, on view in the museum's Atrium until mid February; *Air Lines: Photographs by Alex MacLean* through April 23, displays the work of photographer Alex MacLean, who has flown his Cessna 182 over the continental United States and Europe for the last 25 years, documenting the landscape below and simultaneously creating images that are themselves works of art: the linear patterns of roads, subdivisions, farmland - even parking lots and playgrounds; *Owls in Art and Nature*, through Dec. 3, 2006, exploring the myriad connections between owls and people in different parts of the world, where they have been considered symbols of wisdom, omens of doom, and everything in between; people can discover the variety of reactions that owls evoke in different cultures, and investigate what makes owls unique among birds, while viewing contemporary and historical works of art that explore the beauty, mystery, and power of these animals, and shed light on how perceptions of animals are rooted in cultural traditions; "Owls in Art and Nature" features hands-on exhibits for visitors of all ages; *All of My Life: Contemporary Works by Native American Artists*, a dynamic selection of sculptures and paintings that embraces the experiences and worldviews of nine contemporary Native American artists who call upon and reinterpret both Native American painting and sculpting traditions that are thousands of years old as well as those of modern art, including works by Mateo Romero, David Bradley, and Truman Lowe that will provide opportunities to expand our understanding and knowledge about how contemporary Native artists are reinterpreting traditions and challenging conventions; *Exposing the*

*Source: the Paintings of Nalini Malani*, preventing two decades of work by the Pakistani-born artist who was the first Indian artist to have a solo exhibition in the U.S., the 40 works in various media including oil, acrylic, and video, will remain on view as part of the museum's permanent collection. Monday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., \$13 adults, \$11 seniors, \$9 students; free for children under 16; East India Square, Salem, Mass.; 978-755-1876 or 866-745-1876, [www.pem.org](http://www.pem.org).

**Dracula's Castle**, unusual lore of New England focusing on strange ghostly and unexplained events, \$6, \$4 ages 8-14, Saturdays, 7:30 p.m., 90 Lafayette St., Salem; Dan Tremblay 978-777-2711

**House of Seven Gables**, open daily

10 a.m.-5 p.m., \$10 (2 for 1 admission for Essex County residents with proof of residency), 54 Turner St., Salem; 978-744-0991, [www.7gables.org](http://www.7gables.org)

## Meetings/Activities

**Public skating**, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, 10:30-11:50 a.m., additional Friday 7:30-8:50 p.m., Sundays 1:30-2:50 p.m., \$3 admission, rental skates available, Chelmsford Forum, Brick Kiln Road, North Billerica; 978-670-3700 or [fmcarenas.com](http://fmcarenas.com)

**Adult English classes**, sponsored by the Asian Center of the Merrimack Valley Inc., 3-month program of classes on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings, 9-11 a.m., preschool available for children ages 3 to 5 with parents enrolled in classes; 978-683-7316

**New England Classical Singers**, a regional group of singers largely from the Andover-North Andover area and devoted to the presentation of demanding and interesting choral music, under artistic director David Hodgkins, perform three concerts annually at the Rogers Center for the Arts in North Andover, tryouts and rehearsals are on Wednesdays, 7:15 p.m. at South School in Andover; 978-475-1468 or [www.newenglandclassical.org](http://www.newenglandclassical.org)

**American Legion Andover Post 8**, second Wednesday of the month, September to June, 7 p.m., Andover Senior Center, 36 Bartlett St.; Ted Witman 978-683-9988

**Amnesty International, Merrimack Valley Chapter**, meets second Monday of the month, McQuade Library, Merrimack College, 7:30 p.m.; Leslie 978-475-6960

**Andover Choral Society**, seeks new members for the 2006 season of concerts to be performed at the

Continued on page 24

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Flame of faith  
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Jewish people around the world will celebrate Hanukkah from Dec. 26 to Jan. 2.

The eight-day religious holiday celebrates rededicating the temple in Jerusalem almost 2,200 years ago.

Syria was a powerful neighbor of the Jewish nation. Antiochus, the Greek king of Syria, outlawed Jewish rituals. The people were ordered to worship Greek gods.

In 168 B.C., the Jewish temple at Jerusalem was captured. Antiochus turned it into a place to worship the Greek god Zeus.

This made many of the Jews angry. They decided to fight back. The war went on for three years. The Jews won even though they had fewer men and weapons.

After the battles ended, Judah Maccabee and his soldiers went to the temple. Many items were broken or missing, including the golden menorah. They cleaned and repaired the temple.

When they finished, the people held a dedication ceremony. They wanted to light the menorah, but found only enough oil for one night. Miraculously, the oil lasted for eight days.

Today Jews celebrate Hanukkah for eight days by lighting candles in a menorah every night. On the first night, one light is lit. During the following seven days another candle is added until the eighth night, when all of the candles are burning.

Candles are placed in the menorah from right to left, but are lit from left to right.

The tallest candle is known as the Shamash or "servant." It is used to light all the other candles. Each night blessings are said before the candles are lit.

Some families give the children gelt, chocolate candy coins covered with gold paper, each night during Hanukkah.

In ancient times, menorahs used olive oil. Now colorful candles are used. Menorahs come in all shapes and sizes. The flames must be far enough apart that they will not look like a bonfire.

Hanukkah has other traditional symbols.

A dreidel is a four-sided top with Hebrew letters on the sides. It is used in a game of chance.

Latkes are potato pancakes fried in oil. They are crispy outside and tender inside. Latkes are served with sour cream or apple sauce.

Sufganiyot are jelly donuts without a hole. Street vendors in Israel sell sufganiyot as Hanukkah nears.



## Hanukkah

## Activity

One of the themes in the Hanukkah story is a victory of "the little guy" over superior forces. Look through your newspaper to see if you can find a story where an individual or group beat the odds to achieve success.

Write a paragraph describing a time when you overcame an obstacle to achieve success.

## Word Scramble

Unscramble these names of famous Jewish Americans

BETRAL NINESETI

SNEVET SBERGPILE

LAIS RODWUK

APLAU ALBUD

MILLIAW NATSHER



## EVENTS CALENDAR

## ONGOING

Continued from page 23

Rogers Center for the Performing Arts on Jan. 22 and on May 7; no audition necessary, but regular attendance and commitment are required; rehearsals began Monday, Sept. 19, meet at 7:20 p.m. at Christ Church, Central Street; 978-687-8225.

**Andover Great Books Group.** meets second and fourth Tuesdays, discusses book of the week, activity room, Memorial Hall Library, 7:30-9 p.m.; Jean McGreehan 603-667-9610

**Andover Tennis Club.** for men, women and children, recreational singles, doubles and mixed doubles play at the intermediate level, \$65 family membership, \$40 single membership, Phillips Academy, www.andovertennis.org.

**Bel Canto Singers.** rehearsals Thursday evening, 7:30-9 p.m., St. John the Evangelist Church, 115 Middlesex St., North Chelmsford; 978-256-0783.

**Business Network International (BNI).** Wednesdays, 7-8:30 a.m., Denny's, Route 114, Lawrence; Edna 978-640-8919, or Steve 978-975-1328.

**Business Network International. Haverhill Chapter.** Fridays 7-8:30 a.m., Best Western Hotel, 401 Lowell Ave., Haverhill, 603-475-3503, www.bni-haverhill.org.

**Choral Arts Society.** for information and to audition, call Rick Seaman 603-382-5070, or Shelia Kanan 978-373-4990.

**Country line dancing.** Stompers Country Line Dance Production will have line dancing every Wednesday and Sunday, 7-11 p.m., GuestHouse Inn & Suites, Exit 47, I-93, Methuen.

**Community men's chorus.** the Men's Chorus of New England, formed by Treble Chorus of New

## NEW ENGLAND CLASSICAL SINGERS

## NECS presents 'A Christmas Collage'

The New England Classical Singers presents "A Christmas Collage" featuring a collection of glorious holiday music for chorus, brass quartet, and continuo, featuring Old English tunes, pieces by Bach and Pachelbel, Brahms, Tallis, and Dunstable and an old-fashioned carol sing.

NECS will perform this Saturday, Dec. 17 at 7:30 p.m. at the Rogers Center for the Arts, Merrimack College, North Andover.

The New England Classical Singers is an auditioned chorus that has brought choral music to the Merrimack Valley for more than 25 years.

NECS presents three formal concerts each year, and is conducted by David Hodgkins.

Hodgkins is director of music at the Commonwealth School in Boston and artistic director of Boston's Coro Allegro. "Under his leadership, NECS has earned recognition and respect from audience members and benefactors for its musical achievement and exquisite sound," organizers said.

NECS is funded in part by the Massachusetts Cultural Council and local Cultural Councils and by numerous other local charitable foundations.

Tickets, season subscriptions, and information for this concert can be obtained by calling 978-474-6090 or visiting www.newenglandclassical.org.

Tickets can also be purchased at the Andover Bookstore or the Rogers Center Box Office (978-837-5355). Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors, and \$5 for students.

The Rogers Center for the Arts is located on the campus of Merrimack College in North Andover and is fully accessible. Assisted listening devices and large print programs are available.

Road, Methuen; Lori 978-794-1973.

**Middlesex Singers.** mixed chamber music chorus, rehearsals Mondays, 7:30 p.m., First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church, 2 Westford St., Chelmsford; Pat Moore 978-256-7143.

**Mother Connection.** a non-profit organization serving mothers and children, offers a newsletter, a play-space for children under 5, Mondays and Thursdays, 9:30-11:30 a.m., new moms' coffee, playgroup link-ups, children's parties and adventures, workshops, support groups and more, \$25 for one year, Elizabeth 978-475-5953, or Jen 978-470-0897, or www.themotherconnection.org.

**Mother Circle.** a non-profit group that meets the needs of stay-at-home moms, discuss and hear a range of topics from sibling rivalry to maintaining one's sanity, childcare provided, New England Bible Church; www.nebible.org.

**Newburyport Choral Society.** rehearses Mondays, 7:30-10 p.m., Central Congregational Church, corner of Pleasant and Titcomb streets, Newburyport; 978-462-0650.

**Newburyport Civil War Roundtable.** meets first Monday each month, Ten Center Street Restaurant, 10 Center St., Newburyport, 7:30 p.m., Victoria Ladd 978-373-1723, or Kevin Brightney 978-465-2215.

**Newcomers Club of the Andovers.** social club for residents of Andover and North Andover, variety of activities including a monthly new-member coffee, first Tuesday of the month, 10 a.m., Top of the Scales, 4 Johnson St., North Andover, membership open to new and established residents; Valerie 978-390-0555 or www.newcomerscluboftheandovers.org.

**North Parish Quilters.** meet the second Wednesday of each month, September through June, refreshments available, doors open at 6:30 p.m., meetings begin at 7, new members welcome, guest fee \$5, Union Congregational Church, 148 Haverhill St., North Reading; Susan Reichter, 978-475-6973.

England at Merrimack College with Richard Barney conducting, 5:30-7 p.m., Tuesdays, West Parish Church, Andover; Anne O'Neill 978-837-5461.

**Danvers Art Association.** Weekly programs, Mondays: Massachusetts Title V Septic, public information seminars, 7:30 p.m.; Tuesdays: Open Mike, acoustic music night, 7:30 p.m.; Thursdays: Ghost Stories Movies, 7:30 p.m.; Fridays: Sci-Fi movie night, 7:30 p.m.; all programs \$5 per person, telephone reservation required; Dan Tremblay 978-777-2711. Note: no handicapped-accessibility.

**Drum and Dance Circle.** rhythm instruction and improvisation drumming, meets fourth Friday of the month, Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Andover, 6 Locke St.; 978-470-1134.

**Embroiderers Guild of America.** Merrimack Valley Chapter, dedicated to teaching and preserving needlework as an art form, third Tuesday of the month, September through May, 7 p.m., Tewksbury Congregational Church, Main and

East streets, Tewksbury; Rosemary Carter 978-893-0959, mvc-membership@neonflamingo.com.

**Exsultet!** a chamber choir, rehearsals Mondays, 7:30-10 p.m., Holy Trinity United Methodist Church, 16 Sylvan St., Danvers; Richard Larrage 781-329-1741.

**Folk dance.** Skirts and Flirts Square Dance Club, weekly Thursday classes, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Shawsheen Elementary School, Shawsheen and Hopkins streets (Route 12), Wilmington; 978-658-4022 or 978-658-3480.

**Grandparents as Parents Resource Network of Greater Lowell.** second Tuesday of the month, 7-8:30 p.m., Memorial Hospital, Lowell; Rachelle Comtois 978-459-3242.

**Learn to line dance.** the Knights of Columbus hosts a learn to line dance class every Monday evening, beginners welcome, doors open 6:30 p.m., instruction will start 7 p.m., Knights of Columbus, 2068 Main St., Tewksbury; 1-800-233-4ADJ.

**Lowell Opera Company.** new mem-

bers welcome, auditions not required; rehearsals are held Monday nights at 7:30 p.m. at Christ Church United, 6 Bartlett St., Lowell; 978-441-6926, www.operalowell.org.

**Memorial Hall Library.** Merrimack Valley Quilters, Artist of the Month, book discussion every fourth Wednesday of the month, 7:30 p.m., Elm Square; www.mhl.org.

**Men's woodcarving group** meets on Mondays at 9 a.m. on a drop-in basis at Andover Senior Center, 36 Bartlett St.; 978-623-8321.

**Merrimack Valley Camera Club.** Wednesdays, 7:15 p.m., Trinitarian Congregational Church, 72 Elm St., North Andover; 978-686-0900 or www.merrimackvalleychamber.com.

**Merrimack Valley People for Peace.** fourth Tuesday of each month, 7:30 p.m., North Parish Unitarian Church, Old North Andover Center; 978-661-9009, www.merrimackvalleypeopleforpeace.org.

**Merrimack Valley Music Teachers Association.** non-profit group meets the first Monday of the month, October-May; membership is open to new or established private music instructors; activities include lectures, recitals, masterclasses, and teacher exchanges; Jody Brickman 978-470-3509.

**Merrimack Valley Hospice.** sponsoring a support group designed especially for the young widow or widower, the ongoing group meets weekly on Thursdays, 6-7:30 p.m., exploring the definition of grief, bereavement and mourning, theories about the stages of grief and other related topics, free, open to all, Caritas Holy Family Hospital in the board room, 70 East St., Methuen; 978-552-4572.

**Merrimacks Toastmasters Club.** second and fourth Thursday of the month, guests welcome, 7 p.m. Stevens Memorial Library, 345 Main St., North Andover; Bill Cashman 978-475-0721.

**Merrimack Valley Chorus.** a women's a cappella group, rehearsals Thursdays 7:30 p.m., Wilmington Arts Council Building, 219 Middlesex Avenue (Route 62), Wilmington; Kate 978-692-1843 or www.merrimackvalleychorus.com.

**Methuen Community Band** rehearses every other Thursday 7-9 p.m., all instruments and levels of skills welcome, band room, Methuen High School, 1 Ranger

## Award-winning New England Brass Band returns to the Merrimack Valley

## NE Brass Band at Free Christian Church

The New England Brass Band returns to the Merrimack Valley for its annual holiday concert Saturday, Dec. 17 at 7 p.m. at Free Christian Church, 31 Elm St.

Under the direction of BSO and Boston Pops bass trombonist Douglas Yeo, the group has released its fourth recording, entitled *This is Christmas*, recorded at Symphony Hall in Boston.

The New England Brass Band is a 30-piece brass and percussion ensemble that presents concerts "in the British tradition."

Based in the Boston area, NEBB draws players from Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Maine. Concertmaster and associate conductor Terry Everson is a

trumpet soloist who teaches at Boston University's School of Music and Tanglewood Institute.

In 2004, the group won first place in the Challenge section of the North American Brass Band Association Championship, with members receiving solo and ensemble awards as well. They perform throughout New England and appeared in a special performance last month at Boston's Symphony Hall.

Free Christian Church members look forward to this annual holiday treat, organizers said, and as always, offer this concert free to the public. An offering will be taken to support the group. Recordings will be available

for purchase during the evening.

"It's always a treat to play at Free Christian Church!" exclaims Yeo, who has himself performed in numerous churches and concert halls around the world and confirms the acoustic quality of the Andover sanctuary.

Designed in 1907 by McKim, Mead & White, the architects who designed Boston's Symphony Hall - considered one of the most acoustically perfect performance spaces in the world - the sanctuary is perfect for the brass band's music, members believe.

For more information, call Doug Yeo, New England Brass Band, at 781-861-1472, or Eric Lindahl, Free Christian Church, at 978-475-0700, Ext. 11.

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# Business

## New drug may help fight cancer where others have failed

By Julie Kirkwood

SpongeBob SquarePants move over. Drug researchers in Andover have created a new anti-cancer drug based on an idea they got from a real yellow sponge at the bottom of the sea.

The drug, called E7389, has shown promise, in early tests, in the treatment of breast cancer, scientists at Eisai Research Institute announced yesterday.

"The sponge gave us the direction," said Dr. Sandra L. Silberman, associate vice president at Eisai's US headquarters in New Jersey, "but the chemists then put the final touches on it."

Silberman talked about the discovery from a cell phone at the San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium last night, where she presented the results

of a Phase II breast cancer trial. The drug caused tumors to shrink in 10 of 65 patients who weren't improving on other types of chemotherapy, she said.

The sea sponge, nicknamed "yellow slimy," was first recognized as a potential cancer weapon 20 years ago by scientists in Japan, who found the sponge in the Pacific Ocean, ground it up and discovered that one of its natural chemicals, called Halichondrin B, is a powerful tumor killer.

Eisai's scientists in Andover have spent more than a decade developing a man-made copy of the compound and testing it as a potential therapy for a variety of cancers, including breast cancer.

### Yellow sea sponge inspirational for Andover scientists

It is a project that put this small division of the international, Tokyo-based drug company on the map. Eisai Research Institute is on Corporate Drive, off Shattuck Road.

"For oncology, this is our priority drug," Silberman said. "This is our premier drug. I would have to say it's our baby ... And it's the first thing that came out of what I would say is a relatively young research group."

Yamil H. Kouri, a doctor at Caritas Holy Family Hospital in Methuen who specializes in cancer medications, said at first glance the drug does sound promising. It is impressive that it improved the condition of some patients after previous drugs had failed,

he said, and also that the side effects are no worse than would be expected of a cancer drug.

"It sounds like it's something worth pursuing," Kouri said.

The drug still needs to prove its worth in a Phase III clinical trial, with hundreds of patients at multiple centers, before it wins the approval of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

About 25 to 30 percent of drugs look good in small studies but don't hold up in a Phase III trial, Kouri said.

Many people have high hopes for the sea sponge-inspired compound, though.

The National Cancer Institute has been doing parallel research on the

"yellow slimy" sponge for more than 10 years, said David Newman, a chemist with the cancer institute's Natural Products Branch.

"The reason for doing so was its potency," Newman said.

Also, the sponge compound resembles other cancer drugs on the market, like Taxol, a successful cancer drug derived from the bark of the Pacific yew tree, he said, yet it is different enough that it may work where other drugs fail.

The concept of taking a drug idea from the natural world is not new.

Newman did a survey of all the cancer drugs created between 1981 and 2002 and found a surprisingly high number look amazingly like chemicals found in nature, whether the chemists intended them to or not.

### BRIEFS

#### MC professors honored

Merrimack professors Dr. Michael Rossi, dean of faculty for Liberal Arts, and Dr. Kathleen Shine Cain, professor of English, have been jointly honored with the 7th Annual NCPTW Ron Maxwell Award for Distinguished Leadership in Promoting the Collaborative Learning Practices of Peer Tutors in Writing. They are the first joint recipients of the award.

Rossi is from Haverhill, and Cain is from Windham, N.H.

The National Conference on Peer Tutoring in Writing (NCPTW) Ron Maxwell Award is given annually to a professional "for dedication to and leadership in collaborative learning within writing centers, for aiding students in taking on more responsibility together for their learning, and thus for promoting the work of peer tutors."

#### Ryan Financial named a best money manager again

Ryan Financial Advisors has been named to Nelson Information's World's Best Money Managers for the third quarter of 2005. This marks the 11th consecutive year that the Andover firm has been recognized. Nelson Information's database, the investment industry's largest and most comprehensive compilation of investment manager returns, gathers performance statistics from more than 2100 portfolio managers and represents over \$9 trillion in assets according to a company release.

Ryan Financial, a family-owned and operated wealth-management company, manages assets of more than \$125 million. The firm's returns for the third quarter ranked it in the top 13 percent out of 262 entrants in the "U.S. Balanced and Multi-Asset Allocation" category. This method of investment management employs a strategy of spreading the assets across various asset classes and adjusting the mix as conditions warrant.

Ryan Financial was founded in 1989 by William T. Ryan and Linda Kent Ryan and is located on Main Street in Andover.

#### Phillips dean named new head at Deerfield Academy

The Deerfield Academy Board of Trustees has named Dr. Margarita O'Byrne Curtis, 52, as Deerfield's 55th head of school. Curtis has been a member of the faculty at Phillips Academy Andover for more than 15 years, most recently serving as dean of studies.

"I am delighted and honored to join such a thriving, dynamic and caring community of learners. I look forward to the opportunity to lead a school with such a distinguished heritage and promising future," Curtis said in a release.

She succeeds Eric Widmer who has served as headmaster since 1994.

Before coming to Andover, Curtis taught at Harvard, and for four consecutive years (1982-1986), she won the Certificate of Distinction in Teaching from the Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning.

Curtis is married to Manning Curtis, a cardiologist with a practice in Andover. They have two adult children.

## Brickstone Square sold again

By Greta Cuyler

Brickstone Square in Andover, a one million square foot office complex valued at nearly \$70 million, has been sold to a Chicago-based private equity firm after several months of negotiations.

Transwestern Investment Company LLC purchased 100-400 Brickstone Square, off York and Haverhill streets, from Lehman Brothers on Nov. 28. The complex is two miles north of the Interstate 93 and Route 495 interchange.

"We feel that Boston and suburban Boston is a great place to be an owner," said Transwestern's CEO Stephen Quazzo.

Transwestern representatives said it will look to invest in the Brickstone Square complex, attract more tenants and then resell it after five years.

Currently, there are 50 Brickstone tenants, including Northrop Grumman, Unicore and Richard D. Kimball Company. But 30 percent of Brickstone Square is vacant.

In the last few years, Brickstone has lost two of its largest tenants, Agilent Technologies, Inc., now in Wilmington, and CMGI, which had leased 300,000 square feet of space prior to moving to Waltham two years ago. According to regulatory filings, CMGI paid \$10 million to break its lease.

"CMGI was probably the straw that broke the camel's back," said Andover Planning Director Steve Colyer of then-owner Marty Spagat of Andover Mills LLC's decision to turn over the property to Lehman Brothers.

"I know for a fact that Marty's one of those types of guys who likes to build stuff," said Colyer, citing Spagat's construction of Minuteman Park, off River Road in Andover.

Colyer said Brickstone's vacancy rate is not out of line with what he has seen in the economy. "I don't look at Brickstone as an example of doom-and-gloom economy coming back in," he said. Instead, he said, Andover has been successful in attracting large commercial industrial businesses to town. Wyeth, Procter & Gamble, Smith and Nephew and Straumann are pharmaceutical and medical-device companies in town that



Brickstone Square, once known for the nation's tallest tree and internet giant CMGI, now has a new owner that looks to invest in upgrades and fill vacancies at the facility off York Street.

Colyer said are strong anchors in Andover.

"Office space is lagging. It's not the big commodity," said Colyer.

Kevin Hites, a senior vice president of acquisitions at Transwestern, said the company will consider upgrading both the building and its common areas, which could mean improvements to everything from the elevators and air conditioning to Brickstone Square's lobbies, restrooms and landscaping.

Transwestern typically buys commercial properties for a period of five years, makes capital improvement upgrades and then sells the property to a longer-term buyer, said Quazzo.

Joseph Bevilacqua, president and CEO of the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce, said he had not heard official confirmation of the Brickstone sale, but that original owner Spagat had a "great vision" working with office space and development, as exemplified by Minuteman Park and "the Loop" in Methuen.

"Brickstone was one of those first leaders in taking over older industrial buildings and turning them into first class office space, and this is an opportunity to keep it

operating as an office complex," said Bevilacqua.

The Brickstone property consists of two six-story office buildings, a 10-story office building, a free-standing day care center, a warehouse facility and an 862-space parking garage.

The total value of the property is \$68,374,900, according to the Andover assessor's office.

Transwestern acquired Brickstone through one of its funds, Asland Realty Partners III LLC, an

equity fund with capital commitments of \$800 million.

Transwestern was founded in 1996 and specializes in commercial real estate. The firm has invested in more than 370 properties totaling \$6.3 billion throughout the United States. Other properties near Boston include 2 & 3 University Office Park in Waltham, and 313 Washington St. in Newton. B

Brian Johnson contributed to this report.



The complex, as seen from Route 133, Haverhill Street.

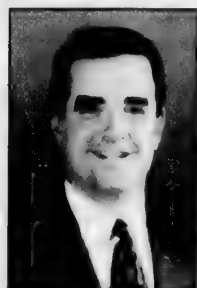
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## LEGAL NOTICE

## NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Samuel Darfior and Jennifer Darfior to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., dated February 28, 2001 and recorded with the Essex County (Northern District) Registry of Deeds at Book 6030, Page 81, of which mortgage Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 10:00 a.m. on January 6, 2006, on the mortgaged premises located at 26 Enmore Street, Andover, Essex County, Massachusetts, and all singular the premises described in said mortgage.

TO WIT: A certain tract of land, with the buildings thereon, situated in that part of Andover, Essex County, Massachusetts, known as Shawheen Village, being shown as p. 1 of Lots 11 and 12 as shown on Plan entitled "Plan B" showing property owned by Textile Realty Company, Shawheen Village, Andover, Mass. June 1932, John Franklin, CE" recorded with the North Essex Registry of Deeds, as Plan No. 877, and being more particularly bounded and described as follows:

NORTHEASTERLY by Enmore Street Seventy (70) feet;

SOUTHEASTERLY by part of Lot 12, as shown on said Plan, 120 feet, said time being 2.5 feet southeasterly from the southeasterly line of Lot 10, as shown on said Plan, and parallel therewith;

SOUTHWESTERLY by Lot D, as shown on said Plan, 70 feet;

NORTHWESTERLY by part of Lot 11, as shown on said Plan, 120 feet, said time being 2.5 feet southeasterly from the southeasterly line of Lot 10, as shown on said Plan, and parallel therewith.

For mortgagors' title see deed recorded with Essex County (Southern District) Registry of Deeds in Book 6030, Page 80.

These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California Street, Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. Present holder of said mortgage By its Attorneys:

HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C. Autumn S. Sarzana, Esquire 150 California Street Newton, MA 02458 (617) 558-0500

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**AMESBURY, MA** 1 & 2 bedroom, 2 full baths, 2 car garage, 1200 sq. ft. Discount on rent! \$1,200/mo. 978-887-8856

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**BEVERLY, MA** Newly renovated 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Near town, beach. Laundry, \$1,500, heat, hot water included. 978-302-1776

**DANVERS, MA** 2 bedroom, end in kitchen, dining area, parking, hook ups, deed and street. \$1,100/mo. + Call after 4 p.m. 978-750-4745

**DERRY, NH** Large variety of 2 & 3 bedroom Townhomes & Duplexes. From \$1,195. Contact Properties 603-432-3380

**DERRY, NH** Luxury Condos For Rent

Brand new 2 bedroom, 2 bath luxury condominiums for rent in an adult community. Minutes to 1/3 & downtown. Starting at \$1,400/mo. Please call 603-421-2747

**GLOUCESTER, MA** - 47 Wilton St. New 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo with garage. \$1,800/mo. Call 978-828-5226

**HAVERHILL, MA** 2 bedroom 1.5 bath, garage, central A/C, tennis, swimming, great location, easy highway access. 1st/last \$1,250 603-235-3878

**LEGAL NOTICE** NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Samuel Darfior and Jennifer Darfior to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., dated February 28, 2001 and recorded with the Essex County (Northern District) Registry of Deeds at Book 6030, Page 81, of which mortgage Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 10:00 a.m. on January 6, 2006, on the mortgaged premises located at 26 Enmore Street, Andover, Essex County, Massachusetts, and all singular the premises described in said mortgage.

TO WIT: A certain tract of land, with the buildings thereon, situated in that part of Andover, Essex County, Massachusetts, known as Shawheen Village, being shown as p. 1 of Lots 11 and 12 as shown on Plan entitled "Plan B" showing property owned by Textile Realty Company, Shawheen Village, Andover, Mass. June 1932, John Franklin, CE" recorded with the North Essex Registry of Deeds, as Plan No. 877, and being more particularly bounded and described as follows:

NORTHEASTERLY by Enmore Street Seventy (70) feet;

SOUTHEASTERLY by part of Lot 12, as shown on said Plan, 120 feet, said time being 2.5 feet southeasterly from the southeasterly line of Lot 10, as shown on said Plan, and parallel therewith;

SOUTHWESTERLY by Lot D, as shown on said Plan, 70 feet;

NORTHWESTERLY by part of Lot 11, as shown on said Plan, 120 feet, said time being 2.5 feet southeasterly from the southeasterly line of Lot 10, as shown on said Plan, and parallel therewith.

For mortgagors' title see deed recorded with Essex County (Southern District) Registry of Deeds in Book 6030, Page 80.

These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California Street, Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. Present holder of said mortgage By its Attorneys:

HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C. Autumn S. Sarzana, Esquire 150 California Street Newton, MA 02458 (617) 558-0500

AT - December 15, 22 & 29, 2005

## SSMA Rentals MA

**BEVERLY, MA** SENIORS age 60 & over, spacious 1 & 2 bedroom units include heat & hot water. Rent based on income. Apple Village, Mon-Fri, 9-5. 978-927-2608. EHO

**BEVERLY, MA** Spacious 2 bedroom, hardwood floors, huge eat-in kitchen, washer/dryer, parking. Walk to train \$1,100+. No dogs. 978-379-3717

**BEVERLY, MA** - Spacious 4 room, 3rd floor modern! Heat & hot water included. Excellent location, close to train. \$950/mo. 978-922-3755

**BEVERLY, MA** 1 bedroom, recently renovated, washer/dryer hookups in unit. Off street parking, \$800+. No pets or smoke. 978-636-7906

**BEVERLY, MA** 1st floor 3 bedroom, 2 bath, heat, hot water included, 24 hour, on site maintenance, parking, move in specials. Walkins welcome. Mon-Fri, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Appointments available. Call 978-927-9117. EHO

**BEVERLY, MA** Totally renovated large 2 bedroom w/ outside deck. Walk to beach. Train. No smoking \$1,000 + 1st & last. 978-927-5156

**BEVERLY, MA** Townhouse 2 bedrooms. Dining room & porch! Dishwasher, parking. No pets/smoking. \$1,250/mo. + Call 978-927-5156

**BEVERLY, MA** 1st floor 3 bedroom, 2 bath, heat, hot water included, 24 hour, on site maintenance, parking, move in specials. Walkins welcome. Mon-Fri, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Appointments available. Call 978-927-9117. EHO

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**BEVERLY, MA** 1st floor 3 bedroom, 2 bath, heat, hot water included, 24 hour, on site maintenance, parking, move in specials. Walkins







# CLASSIFIED CONNECTION

## 83 Professional

**PRE-SCHOOL** is interviewing for a P/T or afternoon Teacher. Ideal for ECE major with flexible schedule. Call or fax resume to 978-683-7501.

**Protective Service Case Worker, P/T**  
Provide protective service case work, investigation & crisis intervention for elders in the community. Must be license eligible or working towards license.

**Intake Information & Referral Specialist PT**  
Complete intake & telephone assessment for all programs. Inform callers regarding eligibility for services. Maintain/update the information & referral system. Bachelor's degree in Social Work, Health or Human Services with 2 years experience in crisis intervention or work with at risk elders.  
Please submit resume to: Cheryl Krisko, Director of Home Care, SeniorCare, Inc., 5 Blackman Center, Gloucester, MA 01930. Resumes reviewed as received. AA/EOE.

**Receptionist/Office Asst.**  
With computer skills needed for busy construction company. Must be reliable and organized. Bookkeeping knowledge would be a plus. Interested candidates send resume to: Hall Sheet Metal Works, Inc., Attention: Susan Vanomem, P.O. Box 930, Middleton, MA 01949, or email: svanomem@hall-sheetmetal.com

**Rockport Public Schools**  
4 Special Education/Reading Teacher to support the Middle School LIPS program. Special Education certification and Masters degree in Reading preferred. Contact: Manuel De Cruz, Director of Special Education, 24 Jorden's Lane, Rockport, MA 01966. 978-546-1210

**85 Medical**  
CNA/PCA, Peabody, MA to work 2 week days, 2 week nights. Steady long term position working with dependent quadriplegic. Come learn, work and be appreciated. \$13.25 hourly. Full training. Call 978-331-6370

**COOKS**  
PT, needed for residential care home. By-weekly position. 2 days per week, Wed & Sat, week 1 & Sun & Fri, week 2. Apply to: The German Home, 374 Howard St., Lawrence, MA. DANVERS, MA - Female PCA needed AM & PM shifts Sun - Sat. Cor and references required. 978-774-1584

**DENTAL ASSISTANT**  
Start a Small Smiles of Lawrence, MA. We offer a State-of-the-Art dental office with competitive salaries and great benefits (including 100% Health Insurance). Send your resume to Mark at morkovsk@dmk.com or fax 719-546-3334.

**Dental Hygienist**  
for Salem, MA family practice. Mon-Thurs, 8 to 5, for general practice in Georgetown, MA. Top salary and benefits. Fax resume to: 978-532-5995.

**Front Desk**  
RECEPTIONIST needed for veterinary clinic in Salisbury, MA. Experience preferred. Full-time position with benefits. Fax cover letter and resume to 978-463-4930.

**Best Home Care**  
Get in on the Ground Floor at our New Office!  
Best Home Care is looking for Homemakers, NHA, CNA's, LPN's, RN's who are experienced in home care. Also Part-Time Full-Time Live-ins. Great for Students, Retirees & Others.  
To set up an interview call 978-777-4009  
Or Fax Resume to 978-777-4119  
For more information visit our website at [www.YourPartnerInCare.com](http://www.YourPartnerInCare.com)  
Our New Office is located at 159 Elliott Street (Rt. 62) in Danvers.

**Home Caregivers**  
CNA/HHA, Companions for elderly in home. Days, nights, overnights & live-in. Visiting Angels. 978-462-6162

**LPN**  
Part/Full-time, 7-3 & 3-11. Enhanced benefit package. Small non-profit retirement community for ladies. Send resumes to: Stevens-Bennett Home, 337 Main St., Haverhill MA 01830. 978-374-9861

**INSTRUCTIONS**  
Full-time, independent person with great customer service & computer skills, 3 plus years experience for small Lawrence office. Resume [thetruegroup@gmail.com](mailto:thetruegroup@gmail.com)

**INSTRUCTIONS**  
Office Assistant FT  
Friendly, independent person with great customer service & computer skills, 3 plus years experience for small Lawrence office. Resume [thetruegroup@gmail.com](mailto:thetruegroup@gmail.com)

**HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR**  
TRAINING FOR EMPLOYMENT  
Bulldozers, Backhoes, Loaders, Dump Trucks, Graders, Scrapers, Excavators  
- National Certification  
- Financial Assistance  
- Job Placement Assistance  
**800-383-7364**  
Associated Training Services  
[www.train-schools.com](http://www.train-schools.com)

**85 Medical**  
**MEDICAL AESTHETICIAN**  
Registered & Licensed. Full-time. Excellent benefits. Reply to: Box M-20555, Full-Contact, P.O. Box 100, Lawrence, MA 01842.

**Medical Assistant/Receptionist, F/T**, for internal medicine practice. Salem, MA. Fax resume 978-741-3150 or call 978-745-9449.

**MEDICAL OFFICE RECEPTIONIST**  
Full-time, in Salem, MA. Candidate must have ability to multi-task, prioritize, display customer service skills. Involves insurance verification, obtaining referrals, collection of copays along with billing data entry. Candidate must also schedule follow up visits & testing. Experience not a necessity, however, only team players need apply. Fax resume to 781-595-1430. Attn: Carol B.

**MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST** for busy family practice office. Approximately 10 hrs. a week. Includes: referrals, scheduling, answering phones. Experience preferred. Send resume to the attention of Julie, Michael Romanovsky, MD, 63 Range Rd., Winthrop, NH 03087 or fax to 603-894-7332.

**Medical Records Technician**  
F/T Flexible schedule. Maintain & input all patient records into computer system for facility documentation. Must be detail-oriented. Medical terminology helpful. Speed and accuracy is essential. Benefits: Health, dental, stock plans, 401K. Fax resume to 978-531-8970 or email: [susan.lind@omni.com](mailto:susan.lind@omni.com)

**NURSE NEEDED**  
Occasionally need nurse to give Andover resident her insulin shot 2x a day, before breakfast and dinner. Call 617-640-1000

**Oral Surgical Receptionist**  
F/T for busy oral surgical position in Lowell, MA. Experience preferred, but will train qualified candidate. Excellent benefits. Please fax resume to 978-458-5467 attention Office Manager

**PCA needed** for elderly man, assistance with personal care, light housekeeping, meal prep, companionship, must like dogs, Mon-Fri, part time. Call 978-475-2412.

**PCA NEEDED**, weekend mornings, 8:11 am. References and resume required. Will train. Call Salisbury, MA. 978-388-6982.

**PCA with experience** wanted for young disabled woman, lifting required, PT hours available. Lynnfield, MA. 781-598-5585.

**Pharmacy Technician**  
F/T Audition position. Experience processing electronic claims. Benefits, Medical, dental, 401K, Stock. Fax resume 978-531-8970. Email: [Susan.Lind@omni.com](mailto:Susan.Lind@omni.com)

**PT/Temporary Medical Transcriptions**  
Busy Rheumatology practice for approximately 6-8 weeks. Flexible hrs. Nancy 978-532-6108

**RN**  
Needed part time, every other weekend, 10 hour day shift, for male college student in our Andover, MA, home, 3pm to 8pm. Long term positions for mature, reliable individual. Call 603-287-5284

**RN's 11-7 Position**  
20 hr. position every other weekend nights. \$35/hr. Extra weekend night differential. Great home care situation taking care of a stable quadriplegic man. Call Gene in Andover 978-475-5619

**ADMIN./SALES ASSISTANT, P/T**  
Professional needed for regional business organization in Danvers-Resume: [nsc@mac.com](mailto:nsc@mac.com) or call 978-777-8444

**Bookkeeper**  
Small company seeking Part Time Bookkeeper for daily cash/payables. Apply: Hobs Board Shop, Rte. 114, Middleton, MA

**Legal Secretary**  
Experienced, P/T for general practice. Billing experience preferred. Please send resume along with references to: Dan Hayes Esq., Morris, Rossi and Hayes, 32 Chestnut St., Andover, MA 01810

**Office Assistant FT**  
Friendly, independent person with great customer service & computer skills, 3 plus years experience for small Lawrence office. Resume [thetruegroup@gmail.com](mailto:thetruegroup@gmail.com)

**ARE YOU UNEMPLOYED?**  
• No experience necessary  
• 20 people needed  
• \$325/wk. to start  
• Full time permanent positions  
Local Company Hiring For The Salem, NH Area  
Call Mon.-Thurs. 9-5 for interview  
**603-870-9596**

**Assistant Store Manager**  
Needed for Tire Warehouse & Auto Parts in Haverhill, MA. Supervisory, auto parts and/or tire sales experience preferred. Starting wages \$11 to \$12.50 hourly, full-time with benefits. Forward resume to: [careers@tirewarehouse.net](mailto:careers@tirewarehouse.net) Mail to: Recruiter-Store 20, Tire Warehouse Central, 492 Main St., Keene, NH 03431 Fax to: 1-866-546-6150

**Athletic Minded?**  
Come to work for the fastest growing window co. in New England. Prior experience not necessary. Paid professional training program provided. Average income \$70K, car essential. No overnight travel. Full benefits & 401K. Pre-set, pre-qualified leads, positive fun atmosphere. call/apply, 800-570-5050

**89 Trades/Industrial**  
**AUTO BODY**  
Full time experienced technician. Excellent wages. Call Geno 978-948-5000.

**Auto Body Tech**  
3+ years experience. Must have own tools & be reliable. Apply to: Dan Winslow Auto Body Danvers, MA 978-762-6366

**CDL DRIVER, P.T.**  
Top Cash Paid  
HVAC Service Tech  
Full time 3.5 yrs. experience. benefits, vacation, holiday and schooling. Valid driver's license required. Call CAC MECHANICAL SERVICES, INC., 800-840-2158

**LANDSCAPING**: Working man for grounds maintenance dept. Experienced. Fluent in English/Spanish. Year round. 978-535-1227 x5

**LICENSED ELECTRICIAN**  
Min. 3 yr. experience. Residential experience a plus. Large scale high-end project in progress. Competitive wages & benefits. Call Mike 781-922-2984 or fax resume 781-944-0945

**PLUMBERS**  
Licensed plumbers needed. Established shop. Top pay & benefits. Call 978-453-5684

**Rooter-Man Now Hiring**  
Service Tech for drain and sewer division, full time, steady pay, company van, 401k, call 978-532-4744.

**Skilled Laborer**  
Established North Shore General Contractor specializing in industrial and commercial work seeking experienced laborer. Concrete work and equipment operation a plus. Competitive salaries and benefits package including medical, disability, life insurance, simple IRA plan, paid vacation and holidays. Call Conroy Brothers Inc. 978-927-0053 x303.

**First Run SNOW PLOW DRIVERS**  
Local Construction Company seeking equipment operators and truck drivers for the 2005/2006 snow removal season. Hydraulics license required. Please call Karen at 781-284-4260

**Spray Foam Applicator**  
No Shore company seeks motivated, hard-working, team oriented in applying spray foam insulation. Must have leadership qualities, mechanical ability, construction site experience, driver's license & be comfortable on ladders. Previous insulation experience a plus. 978-745-5223.

**Pharmacy Technician**  
F/T Audition position. Experience processing electronic claims. Benefits, Medical, dental, 401K, Stock. Fax resume 978-531-8970. Email: [Susan.Lind@omni.com](mailto:Susan.Lind@omni.com)

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• No experience necessary  
• 20 people needed  
• \$325/wk. to start  
• Full time permanent positions  
Local Company Hiring For The Salem, NH Area  
Call Mon.-Thurs. 9-5 for interview  
**603-870-9596**

**Assistant Store Manager**  
Needed for Tire Warehouse & Auto Parts in Haverhill, MA. Supervisory, auto parts and/or tire sales experience preferred. Starting wages \$11 to \$12.50 hourly, full-time with benefits. Forward resume to: [careers@tirewarehouse.net](mailto:careers@tirewarehouse.net) Mail to: Recruiter-Store 20, Tire Warehouse Central, 492 Main St., Keene, NH 03431 Fax to: 1-866-546-6150

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Come to work for the fastest growing window co. in New England. Prior experience not necessary. Paid professional training program provided. Average income \$70K, car essential. No overnight travel. Full benefits & 401K. Pre-set, pre-qualified leads, positive fun atmosphere. call/apply, 800-570-5050

**93 General**  
**AVON !!**  
Career or Pocket money! The choice is yours! 1-800-258-1815

**AWESOME JOB**  
IS CARPET SHAMPOOERS NEEDED  
• No experience necessary  
• Must be neat in appearance  
• Must have a reliable car  
Call Mon. & Thurs. 9-5 for interview  
**603-870-9596**

**Backhoe Operator**  
Drivers license & hoisting machinery license required. Soisbury area. 978-463-8177.

**BARTENDER**  
Ask for Ray or Kathy, Village Green Restaurant, 225 Newbury St., Rt. 1 North, Danvers, MA. 978-774-7270.

**CASHIER**  
Experienced, 2nd shift. Dave's Mobil, Danvers Sq. 978-777-2173

**CASHIER**  
Full service cafeteria in Andover, MA seeks FT cashier, Mon-Fri 12:30-4:30 pm competitive benefits package. Call 978-479-1536

**CDL DRIVER**  
For snow plowing in Andover, MA. Other job opportunities available. 978-475-0478.

**CDL DRIVER**  
Hazmat & air brake endorsement. Part time/full time seasonal. Fuel oil delivery. 978-388-5240.

**CNC Lathe Machinist**  
To set up & operate CNC lathes. Applicant must have a minimum of 5 years experience & a familiarity with lathe OT & IT controls. Apply in person to: Dalton Manufacturing Co., 4 Clark St., Amesbury, MA. 978-388-2227

**COLLECTIONS**  
No experience needed. Great career opportunity. Paid training, benefits, base pay + commission. Call Pat. 978-416-2116

**College Students**  
& others, ages 17 + \$20 base appointment 1 to 4 weeks, conditions apply sales/service 978-774-7700

**COOK**  
Full and part time, Breakfast and Lunch, at the Whistling Kettle Restaurant, 5 Macy Street, Amesbury, MA. Call 978-944-1445.

**Customer Service**  
A very busy Marketing Co. seeks Customer Service person. 20 hrs. per week. Must have good computer & phone skills. Knowledge of QuickBooks helpful. Send resume to: [cp1.89@yahoo.com](mailto:cp1.89@yahoo.com)

**DRIVERS**  
Newburyport Limo service looking for part time help days, nights & weekends. Call David. 978-465-1287.

**LOOKING FOR A CAREER CHANGE?**  
If you like variety in your work, Real Estate Sales is for you. If you are not yet licensed, please call so we can refer you to a real estate class nearest to you. Our continuing training program will assure early success. For a confidential interview please contact Heather at 978-521-5823.

**R E Sales Agents**  
Top commissions guaranteed. Coleman Realty 603-896-1107 for confidential interview.

**Sales Consultant**  
Agent for Circular Wireless seeks motivated professionals for full time wireless sales positions. Salary + commission & benefits. Call Kevin 508-574-2801

**9M Salem Retail**  
FT MANAGER & PT SALES  
Retail cell phone store in Andover. Previous experience a PLUS!! Call Manny Arora 508-897-6166 or email: [m.wireless@yahoo.com](mailto:m.wireless@yahoo.com)

**93 General**  
**ARE YOU UNEMPLOYED?**  
• No experience necessary  
• 20 people needed  
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**Established Peabody Law Firm**  
looking for motivated trainees for fast paced office. Must be dependable, willing to learn & self motivated. Great benefits package, competitive salary & a phenomenal bonus & incentive plan. Full time hours available. Please call Bob Brooks at 1-866-200-5366

**Experienced Collections Manager**  
No. Andover collection law firm seeks goal oriented person for debt collection. Potential SIGN-ON BONUS  
We offer excellent compensation that includes an aggressive bonus plan coupled with health & dental coverage & 401(k) plan.  
Contact: Alex at: (978) 782-0100 x.3289 or Fax resume to: (978) 782-0168. E-mail: [alex@chreiblow.com](mailto:alex@chreiblow.com)

**93 General**  
**Established Peabody Law Firm**  
looking for motivated trainees for fast paced office. Must be dependable, willing to learn & self motivated. Great benefits package, competitive salary & a phenomenal bonus & incentive plan. Full time hours available. Please call Bob Brooks at 1-866-200-5366

**93 General**  
**Lyons Ambulance**  
Is Expanding To Newburyport Area  
Now hiring EMT-B & EMT-P & Chair Drivers  
Please call our HR dept 978-771-1133 ext 15 or apply on-line at [LyonsAmbulance.com](http://LyonsAmbulance.com)

**93 General**  
**Maintenance**  
Full-time evening position available (4 p.m.-12 a.m.). Duties include general maintenance and housekeeping for elementary school. Competitive salary and full benefits available. Send resume to: Brookwood School, Attn: Rick Chiles, P.O. Box 1429, Manchester, MA 01744 or call to set up time to complete application at 978-256-4500 ext. 615.

**93 General**  
**Office Manager**  
P/T - Well versed in all office procedures. Quickbooks experience required. Home volume for windshield wipers & Mike 978-372-4385, or email: [betterhomes@msn.com](mailto:betterhomes@msn.com)

**93 General**  
**Foreman/Woman**  
Truck Body & equipment installer. Good benefits. Apply in person at Brooke & Clutch, 63 Bridge St., Salem, MA.

**93 General**  
**Full Time Personal Assistant**  
Needed for busy business owner. Call Julie 978-985-1114

**93 General**  
**Hair Dresser**  
for busy N. Andover Salon. seeks experienced hair stylist & ambitious help. 978-687-0060

**Hawthorne Hotel**  
• Restaurant Supervisor  
• Full Charge Bookkeeper  
• Maintenance FT  
• AM/PM Servers/Bussers  
• Host Staff PT  
• Banquet Servers P/T-F  
• Function Room Set-up PT  
• Banquet Bartenders  
• AM/PM Line Cook  
Job Hotline 978-425-4374  
Fax 978-414-3553  
[www.hawthornehotel.com/hawthorne](http://www.hawthornehotel.com/hawthorne)

**Housecleaner**  
PT M-F days. Vehicle required. Must speak fluent English. Wilmington, MA. 978-694-1445

**Inventory Takers**  
IMMEDIATE OPENINGS  
Night/Weekend/Anytime opening available taking inventory in local retail stores. No experience needed. Paid training, opportunity for advancement. Must be 18 & have reliable transportation. \$9.50/hr. to start. College students & others welcome! EOE. For interview call 1-800-814-8084  
24 hr job line 1-888-742-RGIS  
RGIS Inventory Specialists

**DRIVER**  
Fortune 500 Co. seeking CDL-A & Min. 2 yr. experience.  
• Excellent Wages  
• Excellent Benefits  
• Safety Bonus  
• Uniforms  
Apply in person at: Leggett & Platt, Inc. Crest Foam 122 Parker Street Newburyport, MA Fax: 978-465-8006 AA/EAE/OE

**Drivers - 7D School Van**  
up to \$11,000/hr  
attention bonuses & guaranteed minimums available. L&K Transportation Co. 978-774-4551 to apply

**DRIVERS**  
Newburyport Limo service looking for part time help days, nights & weekends. Call David. 978-465-1287.

**LOOKING FOR A CAREER CHANGE?**  
If you like variety in your work, Real Estate Sales is for you. If you are not yet licensed, please call so we can refer you to a real estate class nearest to you. Our continuing training program will assure early success. For a confidential interview please contact Heather at 978-521-5823.

**R E Sales Agents**  
Top commissions guaranteed. Coleman Realty 603-896-1107 for confidential interview.

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**9M Salem Retail**  
FT MANAGER & PT SALES  
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